



Daily Report—

East Asia

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Daily Report

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Mitsuo Sato Elected ADB President

*OW0610080493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0733 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Manila, Oct. 6 KYODO—The Board of Governors of the Asian Development Bank [ADB] has unanimously elected Mitsuo Sato as the bank's new president, the ADB announced Wednesday [6 October].

Sato, currently vice president of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, will succeed Kimimasa Tarumizu on November 24. Tarumizu earlier announced his resignation as ADB president for health reasons.

The 60-year-old Sato has a career spanning three decades in the Japanese Ministry of Finance. He is an expert in international taxation, has served in Washington D.C. and has represented the Tokyo Stock Exchange at a number of international forums, the ADB said.

A graduate of the Tokyo University's Law Department, Sato joined the Ministry of Finance in 1955. In 1966, he completed a one-year international program in taxation in developing countries at Harvard Law School.

In 1970, he was posted in Washington as senior economist in the International Monetary Fund, advising developing countries on improving their tax policies and systems.

After returning to the Ministry of Finance, Sato was promoted in 1976 to director of the Tax Bureau's Research Division and in 1978 to director of Securities Companies Division in the Securities Bureau. He occupied various other positions in the Finance Ministry, the latest of which was director general of the Customs and Tariff Bureau where he contributed to improving Japan's economic relations with other countries through tariff cuts and bilateral and multilateral consultations.

In 1986, Sato was appointed senior managing director of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, and in 1991 was promoted to deputy president. Sato is married and has two sons.

ASEAN To Forward Tariff Cuts by One Year

*BK0710020793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
7 Oct 93 p 24*

[Text] The committee of ASEAN ministers administering the ASEAN Free Trade Area [AFTA] programme agreed yesterday to bring forward by one year initial tariff cuts that had been set to start in 1995.

Thai Deputy Finance Minister Trairong Suwannakhiri said that all ministers in the AFTA Council agreed to begin tariff cuts in January 1994; Brunei requires six more months and will begin by June 1994.

Mr Trairong said yesterday's meeting showed members' determination to implement the AFTA as quickly as possible as it would benefit the whole group.

Chaloemphon Sanitwongchai, the new deputy commerce minister, said the private sector would receive details of tariff rates in November.

The 70-minute Council meeting took place just after ASEAN's economic ministers arrived in Singapore for their annual conference today and tomorrow.

Malaysian Trade and Industry Minister Rafidah Aziz said upon arrival at the airport earlier in the day: "We need to tell ourselves and the world that we are prepared to make commitments to cut tariffs to the extent that it would make AFTA a reality, within a timeframe that doesn't reflect dragging of feet of anybody."

"In other words, it will show not only political commitment but overall economic commitment to make sure that AFTA happens."

"Each ASEAN government will have to address its own domestic industrial problems as quickly and as expeditiously as possible to bring them within the...AFTA schemes." AFTA is the main agenda item for the economic ministers' meeting.

The six ASEAN countries agreed at their summit last year to promote trade by establishing the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) to cut tariffs to between zero and 5 percent within 15 years.

Two tracks were suggested: a normal one taking 15 years or a fast track process taking seven to 10 years.

The original tariff-cutting proposal showed that actual tariff cuts would begin in 1995 for Indonesia, Thailand and Brunei while the Philippines would start in 1996. Malaysia started in 1993 while Singapore is the exception because it is largely duty-free.

Thai Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak said Thailand wanted the AFTA to be established as soon as possible. He said that if he has the chance today he would push for speeding up full implementation to 10-12 years.

He said Thailand had shown its good faith as evidenced by the list it had submitted of items eligible for tariff cuts.

ASEAN members can request temporary exclusions for certain goods. The resulting exclusion list will be revised within eight years. Permanent exclusions will be allowed for agricultural products and the products deemed essential to countries' interests and security.

Most ASEAN members expressed determination to achieve the AFTA goal by reducing the number of items on the exclusion list by 516 items from the original 3,321.

Brunei is the only country that wants to add items—42 to a list that already includes 208 items.

Members supported a Thai proposal that future reductions to the exclusion list be considered at the next AFTA Council meeting in Thailand next year, said Mr Trairong.

A Thai source said Thailand's 118 item list might be cut to about 90 items but the exact number must be submitted to the ASEAN secretariat after joint consideration with the Thai private sectors.

Another source said changes in each country's exclusion list would also depend on how to interpret items such as processed agricultural products or agricultural products. The latter would be excluded from AFTA and from the list.

Deciding what constitutes processed agricultural products will depend on each country because Malaysia had taken issue with an earlier United Nations-approved base. Each country will submit its own interpretation to the ASEAN Secretariat.

A decision on how to calculate local content in ASEAN products is still pending. Malaysia's Rafidah said members should honour commitments they made last year in Jakarta.

At Jakarta, the AFTA Council agreed that cumulative local content of 40 percent would be required for AFTA products, but details of how this would be calculated remained unresolved. Some sectors want to use a different rule based on the extent of transformation of materials and components irrespective of the actual value added in the process.

A Thai source acknowledged there was a lot of confusion: "Products which comply with origin requirements of 40 percent local content and which are used in a member state as inputs for finished products eligible for preferential treatment in another member state shall be considered as products originating in the member state where working or processing of the finished product had taken place, provided that the aggregate ASEAN content of the final product is not less than 40 percent."

However, members still have time to solve this problem as the calculation will not be used until tariff cuts reach 20 percent which will take at least one more year.

Membership in the AFTA Council is similar to that of the economic ministers' meeting although Thailand is represented by its Finance Ministry on the AFTA council, and the Commerce Ministry takes the lead in economic ministers' forums. Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak is leading the delegation for the second year running.

AEM Meeting Opens in Singapore 7 Oct

BK0710071993 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong calls on ASEAN countries to renew their resolve to promote economic cooperation and give substance to the ASEAN Free Trade Area, AFTA, idea. He said a clear and bold political leadership supported by members and full working bureaucracies will make a critical difference to ASEAN's economic prospects. Opening the 25th ASEAN economic ministers meeting, AEM, in the republic, he said ASEAN members do have genuine concern and difficulties in implementing AFTA. AFTA's announcement initially created considerable optimism and businessmen are hopeful that ASEAN has decisively changed its previous course of approach to economic cooperation and will now make substantial progress. He said investors are more than eager to learn the details of AFTA and the current effective preferential tariffs, CEPT, scheme in order to find their ASEAN-wide projects.

Meanwhile, International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Rafidah Aziz said although ASEAN is sometimes slow in their trade, the prevailing pact is necessary and relevant as it benefits the conducive economic cooperation and is seeing ASEAN members coming on board the ship. The move benefited the private sector.

Philippine Trade and Industry Secretary Mr. Rizalino Navarro said ASEAN is fully aware of the short-time sacrifices for the sake of longer-term opportunities.

Indonesia echoed the close cooperation since ASEAN always works as a team when facing economic and political challenges. Its coordinating minister for industry and trade, Mr. Hartarto, said ASEAN's esprit de corps is particularly useful when shaping newly emerging communist nations, especially China and Indochina.

ASEAN countries have offered between 78 percent and 90 percent of their respective total product tariff lines under revised package of tariff cuts to be implemented through the common effective preferential tariffs, CEPT, scheme. Indonesia, Thailand, and the Philippines also agreed to commence tariff cuts on 1 January 1994. The ASEAN Free Trade Area, AFTA, Council said in a statement issued in Singapore Brunei Darussalam will, however, only implement the CEPT in June 1994 owing to domestic administrative features. The other key ASEAN members Singapore and Malaysia had commenced tariff roll backs as scheduled on 1 January this year.

Malaysia has offered 3,776 tariff lines for tariff reductions commencing 1 January next year. Singapore offered 373 tariff lines, Thailand 1,327, the Philippines 1,052, Indonesia 2,001, and Brunei Darussalam 1,408. dd

Japan

Reportage on Upcoming Yeltsin Visit Continues

Advance Party Arrives To Prepare

OW0710054993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0523 GMT
7 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—A Russian advance delegation arrived in Tokyo Thursday to prepare for President Boris Yeltsin's visit from Monday to Wednesday [11 October to 13 October]. A similar Russian mission came to Japan from late September to early October, government officials said.

The delegation will hold talks later in the day with senior Japanese Foreign Ministry officials on the details of the security and itinerary arrangements for Yeltsin's visit, the officials said.

The president's talks with Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa are expected to center on Japan's economic aid to Russia and on a territorial dispute over four Russian-held islands off Hokkaido.

Yeltsin reconfirmed his visit to Japan shortly after he crushed parliamentary foes in Moscow on Monday. He canceled a scheduled official visit to Japan in September last year and again in May this year, citing pressing problems at home and later blamed Japan for taking a tough stand on the territorial row.

Hosokawa Details Agenda

OW0710054293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0508 GMT
7 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa said Thursday he will welcome Russian President Boris Yeltsin as the supreme leader of the important neighbor country when he arrives in Tokyo next week.

In a session of the House of Councillors budget committee, Hosokawa said, "I regret a situation that unfortunately led to bloodshed but I will give him suitable hospitality as the top leader of the important neighbor," brushing aside views that Japan should ask Yeltsin to stop the Japan visit. Hosokawa made the remarks in response to a question by opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) legislator Hiroshi Miyazawa.

Yeltsin has restored stability in Moscow after crushing the parliament hard-liners' revolt against his reform drive Sunday and Monday, which claimed more than 100 lives.

Touching on the longstanding territorial dispute with Russia, Hosokawa said he hopes to make progress on the issue in talks with Yeltsin next Tuesday and Wednesday. Hosokawa said he will make efforts to secure progress in the northern islands dispute, following up on negotiations already conducted between the two countries,

apparently referring to the 1956 joint declaration which stipulates Russia should return two of the four contested islands off Hokkaido.

The Soviet Army captured four islands—Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan and the Habomai group of islets, situated east of Japan's northernmost main island—at the end of World War II.

In the joint declaration, the former Soviet Union pledged to return Shikotan and the Habomai islets to Japan after concluding a peace treaty. But the Soviet Union withdrew this undertaking after Japan renewed its security treaty with the United States in 1960.

Concerning calls in Japan for Russia to apologize for transporting an estimated 600,000 Japanese prisoners to Siberia for forced labor after the war, Hosokawa said he would inform Yeltsin of the strong emotions that linger in Japan over the incident.

Yeltsin is scheduled to arrive in Tokyo next Monday for a three-day official visit.

'News Focus' Comments on Visit

OW0710095293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0925 GMT
7 Oct 93

[“News Focus” by Takehiko Kajita: “Japan’s Russia Policy Unchanged Despite Power Transfer”]

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—Despite the dramatic power shift in Japanese politics this past summer, Tokyo has shown no sign of shifting its uncompromising policy on a territorial dispute with Russia ahead of a state visit by President Boris Yeltsin.

As Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa has made clear, Japan will continue to “tenaciously” seek settlement of the row over four islands off its northernmost main island of Hokkaido before concluding a World War II peace treaty with Russia. However, in an address to parliament in late September, the premier said Japan intends to extend an “appropriate” level of support to reform efforts spearheaded by Yeltsin to turn Russia into a democratic, market-oriented society.

Japan’s reluctance to provide major financial assistance to Russia until the territorial row is solved has brought intense pressure from its partners in the Group of Seven (G-7) economic powers to be more generous to Moscow and help Yeltsin further his reforms.

As Japan is chairing the G-7 this year, Hosokawa crafted on behalf of the group a message sent to the embattled Russian leader Wednesday [6 October], a day after rebel parliamentary leaders in Moscow surrendered. “We reconfirm that our support remains unchanged for democratic reform and economic reform pursued by President Yeltsin,” the G-7 message said in part.

As the ruling coalition led by Hosokawa has vowed to stick with key diplomatic policies crafted by previous

administrations of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), there is nothing surprising about the lack of freshness in the government's Russia policy.

As a result, the 55-year-old premier must first and foremost raise the islands issue when Yeltsin visits Japan as a state guest from Monday through Wednesday, even though the chances of achieving progress on the matter are virtually nil. The main reason is the volatile situation in Russia and Yeltsin's unstable power base. Many Japanese believe the Russian president cannot make any concessions on the islands as it would surely terminate his political life.

In a joint statement to be issued before the Russian president leaves Japan, Tokyo and Moscow will not directly refer to the 1956 Japan-Soviet Joint Declaration, in which Moscow agreed to return two of the four islands, according to government sources. But the paper will clearly state that all four will be included in future territorial negotiations, the sources said.

In the 1956 document, the former Soviet Union promised to return Shikotan and the Habomai group of islets to Japan after concluding a peace treaty. The two other islands are the larger Etorofu and Kunashiri.

The anticipated dropping of a direct reference to the declaration, however, does not signal Tokyo is making concessions in the territorial dispute.

"It is natural the 1956 Japan-Soviet Joint Declaration applies to relations between Japan and Russia," Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura said recently, brushing aside doubts about the validity of the document following the demise of the Soviet Union.

The best diplomatic achievement Japan can hope for from Yeltsin's trip may be simply the success of having finally brought the Russian leader to Japan for talks on bilateral issues, highlighted by the territorial dispute.

Since Yeltsin twice canceled planned visits to Japan, once in September last year and again in May, his mere presence here will have great significance in terms of bilateral relations.

The Russian president blamed Japan's "intransigence" over the islands for the cancellation of his first planned visit.

On hearing the news in New York late last month that Yeltsin had decided to visit Japan, Hosokawa voiced hope the trip will open a "new page" in their ties. "I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate our country's commitment to support and help in the reforms being promoted by President Yeltsin," he said.

It remains to be seen how Hosokawa's coalition government will strive to improve relations with Russia beyond the upcoming Yeltsin visit.

Hosokawa has yet to unveil any specific plan to help resolve the territorial row, although he has repeatedly

said Japan will continue to back Yeltsin's reform efforts as it has in the past. Also, no conspicuous moves from within the coalition government are seen to help shepherd their relationship in the right direction.

Legislators from Hokkaido have refused to even comment on the simple question of how Japan should deal with Russia, saying their answers may cause negative reaction from their constituents.

Disarmament, Nuclear Waste on Agenda

OW0710121693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1149 GMT
7 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—Russia and Japan will agree during next week's talks between Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and President Boris Yeltsin on joint efforts in nuclear weapons dismantlement and radioactive waste disposal, government sources said Thursday [7 October].

The sources said that during Yeltsin's visit, Foreign Ministers Tsutomu Hata and Andrey Kozyrev will ink an accord on Japanese assistance for Russia's nuclear weapons dismantlement program.

The accord will establish a bilateral committee on disarmament support, which will jointly manage allocation and disbursement of some 100 million dollars in grants that Japan pledged last April to help Russia reduce its nuclear stockpile.

The sources said Hosokawa and Yeltsin will also agree to carry out at the earliest possible date a joint investigation of the environmental impact of nuclear waste dumping into shared waters.

The investigation, agreed to by the two sides last May in Moscow, has been delayed. It is now expected to be realized early next year.

Japan expressed grave concern earlier this year after Russia revealed it and the former Soviet Union dumped nuclear waste, including reactors, into the Sea of Japan, the Sea of Okhotsk and an area southeast of Kamchatka peninsula from late 1959 to 1992.

Russia subsequently announced that dumping of solid nuclear substances had been halted, but said dumping of liquid waste, such as coolants from nuclear reactors, would continue for the time being because the country lacks facilities to handle such waste.

At the same time, Russia has asserted that Japan itself dumped radioactive isotopes used for medical purposes into the sea.

The sources said that a joint communique to be issued at the end of the Hosokawa-Yeltsin talks will include a reference to their mutual concern of the serious environmental damage inherent in dumping of radioactive waste at sea. Another bilateral working-level meeting on the nuclear dumping issue is expected to be held in November, they said.

Hosokawa To Discuss Territories

OW0710140493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1347 GMT
7 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on Thursday [7 October] vowed to press Russian President Boris Yeltsin to make headway in resolving a territorial dispute over four Russian-held islands off northern Japan. "I will try to secure further progress in Japanese-Russian relations in line with Japan's longtime assertion that the four northern islands are Japanese territory," Hosokawa said at Thursday's session of the House of Councillors Budget Committee.

He was responding to a question from Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) member Hiroshi Miyazawa, younger brother of former Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa. The questioner pressed Hosokawa to clarify Japan's approach to Yeltsin's three-day visit to Tokyo which begins Monday.

Since assuming the premiership, Hosokawa has repeatedly vowed he will not backpedal from Japan's position that major economic aid cannot be offered to Moscow unless progress is made over the territorial dispute.

Japan has long called for the return of the islands—Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan and the Habomai group. The former Soviet Union seized the islands at the end of World War II.

Hosokawa said he will make efforts to secure progress in the northern islands dispute, following up on negotiations already conducted between the two countries, alluding to the 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration which stipulates Moscow should return two of the four islands off Hokkaido.

In the joint declaration, the former Soviet Union pledged to return Shikotan and the Habomai islets to Japan after concluding a peace treaty.

Hosokawa also told the session, "I will insist on what Japan should insist on in order to build up new Japan-Russia relations."

"I will try to make further progress on top of past diplomatic achievements, although I'm not sure Japan can immediately achieve results on the issue of the four northern islands," he said.

Hosokawa also pledged to convey to Yeltsin the "special strong emotions" among the public over the fate of an estimated 600,000 Japanese prisoners captured by the Soviet Red Army and interned in Siberian prisons and labor camps since 1945.

The prime minister was responding to Miyazawa's question about the possibility of the Russian president's expressing remorse over the fate of the internees, of whom 55,000 reportedly died.

These exchanges came after former Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe and some senior LDP legislators criticized Yeltsin for ordering a military attack on Russian hard-liners in the parliament earlier this week. The conservative legislators urged cautious Japanese diplomacy during Yeltsin's visit.

Yeltsin has restored stability in Moscow after crushing the parliament hard-liners' revolt against his reform drive Sunday and Monday, which claimed more than 100 lives.

Hosokawa said he will welcome Yeltsin as the supreme leader of Russia which he called an important neighbor country.

He said, "I regret a situation that unfortunately led to bloodshed but I will give him suitable hospitality as the top leader of the important neighbor," brushing aside calls from some LDP legislators that Japan should reject Yeltsin's visit.

LDP Members Favor Filing Protest

OW0710152293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1455 GMT
7 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—A growing number of opposition Liberal Democratic Party members favor filing a protest against Russian President Boris Yeltsin over his use of force against the occupiers of the Russian parliament Monday [4 October], party officials said Thursday. Yeltsin is due to visit Tokyo from October 11 to 13.

Sohei Miyashita, a senior member of the party's largest faction and a former Defense Agency director general, told journalists Thursday that surrounding the parliament, known as the Russian White House, with tanks was "not acceptable political practice."

Miyashita was referring to Yeltsin's use of tanks and troops to defeat his diehard opponents who were holed up in the parliament building in central Moscow for two weeks until their surrender Monday.

"He should be impeached and reprimanded," Miyashita said. "As long as he's coming, one has to avoid any impropriety, but we should let him know where Japan stands on the matter."

Shinzo Abe, a House of Representatives member and son of the late former Foreign Minister Ichiro Abe, said he did not want Yeltsin to "shake his bloodied hand" with Emperor Akihito.

Yeltsin is scheduled to meet the emperor Tuesday.

Abe also urged an LDP boycott of a welcoming ceremony for Yeltsin.

At a meeting of the heads and deputy heads of the party's Policy Affairs Research Council, Takashi Kosugi, who heads a subcommittee on foreign affairs, said the LDP should make known to the government its "regret" over

the postwar internment of Japanese soldiers in Siberia and this week's attack on the Russian parliament.

On Wednesday, former Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said "There was no rule of law and no justice in inflicting serious damage on the parliament building." Watanabe urged the government to raise the issue of the detention of an estimated 600,000 Japanese soldiers in Siberia after World War II.

Framework Talks With U.S. Scheduled for Tokyo

OW0610131893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1250 GMT
6 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Japan will resume working-level trade talks with the United States next week in Tokyo on a wide range of issues in the two nations, Japanese Government officials said Wednesday [6 October]. The bilateral negotiations, which are to continue for two weeks, cover insurance, government procurements, automobile parts, telecommunications, medical equipment and others, according to the officials.

The Tokyo meetings, which follow the first in Hawaii in September, are to start with the two-day talks on insurance from Tuesday.

During the Hawaii talks, the U.S. side named as non-tariff barriers nine issues like "keiretsu" interlocking business relations within the insurance industry, saying Japanese corporations tend to take out insurance policies from affiliated insurers, they said.

In the upcoming talks, Japanese negotiators will stress that the Japanese market is more open than the American market, by pointing out that U.S. insurance firms earned 10 billion dollars each year in Japan while Japanese firms earned only 300 million dollars in the U.S., the officials said.

The Japanese negotiators are led by Eisuke Sakakibara, deputy director general of the International Finance Bureau of Japan's Finance Ministry, while Ira Wolf, assistant U.S. trade representative for Japan and China, heads the U.S. team.

Following the discussion on the insurance market, Japan and the U.S. will have talks on other trade issues by October 22. They will discuss such trade issues as financial services, auto and auto parts, and the construction market as well as government procurement in the fields of telecommunications, medical equipment.

They will also have market-oriented sector-selective talks on medical care and construction markets.

The meetings will be attended by officials at the Foreign Ministry and Ministry of International Trade and Industry, while officials of the U.S. Trade Representative Office and the Department of Treasury will join them.

The U.S. side is likely to propose the establishment of "numerical targets" to measure the openness of Japanese markets for imports to narrow the bilateral trade imbalance in Japan's favor. Each negotiation, therefore, will be tough for Japan, the officials said.

Mondale Lauds U.S. Ties, Urges Trade Progress

OW0710071693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0652 GMT
7 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—New U.S. Ambassador to Japan Walter Mondale on Thursday [7 October] hailed the fundamental agreements Washington and Tokyo share on a number of global issues but sought "urgent" progress on the divisive issue of trade.

"This is not just for benefit of the United States, nor just for the benefit of Japan," he said, adding the two countries share a "global responsibility to promote economic growth and open markets worldwide." As in his Senate confirmation hearings, Mondale used his first news conference as successor to career diplomat Michael Armacost to reiterate the need for the two countries to correct the stubborn trade imbalance of as much as 50 billion dollars annually that plagues the relationship.

For its part in resolving the economic problems, Mondale said, the U.S. has initiated efforts to reduce its budget deficit, improve worker productivity, reform health care and make government more efficient and responsive. He also said he sees positive signs on Japan's part in the government's stimulus package announced September 16. He urged their "swift and early implementation" and expressed hope for further proposals to enhance market access, promote competition and expand consumer choice.

Throughout his 40-minute press conference, Mondale appeared to choose to highlight the positive in the bilateral relationship even when pointing to contentious trade issues. He said President Bill Clinton and Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa "found that they share much in common" during their first summit talks in New York on September 27.

Mondale welcomed Hosokawa's commitment to the U.S.-Japan economic framework agreement hammered out in July, adding he expects both sides to proceed according to schedule with their commitments. Asked about rumblings in Washington that Tokyo has not been keeping to the agreement's calendar, Mondale said, "As an old member of congress, I expect them to be patient."

He expressed concern that little progress has been made in bilateral construction talks and that sanctions would be imposed 1 November if Japan does nothing about alleged bid-rigging by Japanese firms and designated bidding systems that constrain foreign competitors.

"I am still hopeful the issue can be resolved without resorting to sanctions," said Mondale, even as the General Accounting Office in Washington investigates a bid awarded to a Japanese construction firm to rebuild the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo.

With time running out on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) negotiations, Mondale said the U.S. wants Japan to agree to the tariffication proposal to open its rice market. "Both our nations, since we're both great trading nations, have everything to gain from an open international trading system and GATT is the essential legal underpinning for that system," Mondale told reporters.

While urging the tariffication of rice, Mondale expressed sympathy for Japanese rice farmers, who are faced with a serious crop failure this year due to the abnormally cold and wet summer. He said he understood their plight since he grew up working on a farm in a rural community in southern Minnesota.

The former vice president and senator said Washington understands that the new Hosokawa government, that ended nearly four decades of Liberal Democratic Party rule this summer, will need some time to develop its policies. "We are sympathetic to this and want to accommodate this," Mondale said, but added, "We need to show the world that the U.S. and Japan, as partners, are ready to move forward."

"It is not just how we get along together, but it is what we can do together as partners to move the world forward," Mondale said, listing security, economic growth, open trading systems, the development of democracy and the environment as areas where the two countries can cooperate.

Mondale also noted that there have been "hopeful signs of a more assertive public leadership" in Japan and said officials in Washington have been impressed by the level of "interest, specificity and sophistication" of the Japanese representatives in a number of initiatives in worldwide.

Mondale warned of the danger posed by North Korea's alleged nuclear weapons development program, calling the situation "ticklish, delicate and dangerous."

"The North Koreans are perhaps capable of developing nuclear weapons and a delivery system," he said. "And this is a matter of great concern to other nations in the region and to the international nuclear regulatory agencies."

He described the U.S.-Japan security arrangement as the "linchpin" of stability and security in the region. "(Japan's) Self-Defense Forces are committed to defending the nation and we're committed to working with them to bring stability to this region."

He said he does not think that the U.S. should play an intermediary role in resolving the ongoing dispute between Japan and Russia over a group of Russian-held islands off Hokkaido.

Tokyo 'Ready To Join' UN Security Council

OW0710141493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1402 GMT
7 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa said Thursday [7 October] that Japan is ready to join the United Nations Security Council as a permanent member even before any proposed reform for the world body is implemented.

Hosokawa, speaking at the day's session of the House of Councillors Budget Committee, said "if Japan received recommendations that it join the council before any reform, it would promote reform of the council after joining it," he said.

Under the reform proposed by U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the United Nations is considering enhancing its peacekeeping and peace-making functions to check outbreaks of military conflicts around the world.

Hosokawa earlier indicated at the U.N. General Assembly in September in New York that Japan is ready to assume all the duties of the council's permanent members if reform of the council is implemented first.

Caution Urged in SDPJ Comments on SDF

OW0610084493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0808 GMT
6 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 6 KYODO—Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura on Wednesday [6 October] urged socialist ministers to exert caution in making public comments on the constitutionality of the Self-Defense Forces (SDF).

"When a cabinet minister comments on the Self-Defense Forces as a politician, the minister should exert caution so as not to draw a misunderstanding that the minister made the comment in his or her capacity as a cabinet minister," Takemura said. Takemura was reading a cabinet position paper at the day's session of the House of Representatives Budget Committee.

The coalition government of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa issued the paper in response to Liberal Democratic Party questioner Takashi Fukaya. Fukaya charged that five of six ministers from the Social Democratic Party (SDP) violated the Constitution by denying the constitutionality of the SDF which he said a constitutional entity. [sentence as received]

The five SDP ministers told Monday's committee session that the SDF, with its current level of military capability, contravenes the Constitution, which

renounces war and bans the country to use force as a means of settling international disputes.

The SDP, the largest among seven parties comprising the coalition government, has insisted only a military with minimal combat capability for the defense of Japan can be deemed constitutional.

While the SDP was in opposition, it advocated unarmed neutrality for Japan and dismissed the SDF as an unconstitutional institution.

The LDP, which ruled Japan since 1955 until its August 6 fall from power, has interpreted that the Constitution authorizes "the forces that exist for defense purposes only," as the SDF will never be deployed to wage an overseas attack.

The LDP's Fukaya charged the five SDP ministers with violating the Constitution's Article 99, which obligates state ministers, the emperor, Diet members and other public officials to "respect and uphold the Constitution."

Takemura said in the position paper, "even if a state minister made comments critical of the SDF in the capacity of a politician or as a party member, such comments would not amount to violating the Article 99 mandating public officials' compliance with the Constitution."

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Hosokawa vowed to press ahead with a plan to purchase four AWACS (airborne warning and command system) planes to enhance the reconnaissance capability of the Air Self-Defense Force. Hosokawa told the Diet session that the planes are necessary to bolster Japan's information-gathering capability in building up its defense capability.

Hosokawa made the comments in reply to an interpellation from LDP legislator Hiromu Nonaka, who asked whether the United States promised to hand over the AWACS-related technology on top of the AWACS hardware.

Naoaki Murata, director general of the Defense Agency's Defense Policy Bureau, said in reply that the agency is convinced that the U.S. would transfer the "necessary technology."

The SDP has opposed the purchase of AWACS planes, saying they would overstep the defensive capability allowed by the Constitution. National Land Agency Director General Kosuke Uehara, an SDP member, has recently caused a parliamentary stir after he criticized the planned purchase of the AWACS planes.

Hosokawa: SDP Ministers Understand SDF Policy

OW0710073493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0658 GMT
7 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa said Thursday [7 October] he believes that cabinet ministers of the Social Democratic Party (SDP) approve of the coalition government's policy on the constitutionality of the Self-Defense Forces (SDF). "I am convinced that all parties understand the policy as long as they are part of the coalition government," he said.

Hosokawa was replying to opposition Liberal Democratic Party parliamentarian Hiroshi Miyazawa at the morning session of the House of Councillors Budget Committee.

Sadao Yamahana, state minister in charge of political reform, and four other cabinet ministers, all from the SDP, told previous Diet sessions that they regard the SDF as unconstitutional. But Yamahana and other SDP ministers avoided making clear comments on the constitutionality of the SDF, only saying they "will make efforts to abide by the basic principles of the (coalition government)."

The SDP, the largest party in the coalition, regards the existence of the SDF as contravening the Constitution, which in Article 9 says, "land, sea and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained."

Miyazawa challenged Hosokawa by saying, "It is a conclusion of logic that the SDP should acknowledge the existence of the SDF in accordance with the coalition government." He said the remarks by the SDP ministers violated Article 66, which says, "The cabinet, in the exercise of executive power, shall be collectively responsible to the Diet."

He demanded the cabinet submit a common view on his question. Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura promised to do so at the earliest time.

On the scheduled visit by Russian President Boris Yeltsin next week, Hosokawa, after expressing regret over the recent bloodshed in Moscow, said he "wants to treat (Yeltsin) as the supreme leader of an important neighboring country."

Hosokawa, however, made it clear that he will ask for an apology from Yeltsin over Moscow's exploitation of an estimated 600,000 Japanese prisoners of war taken to Siberia after World War II. "I will tell him clearly that our nation has particularly deep emotions" about the issue, he said.

Government Policy To Expand Imports Decided
*OW0710042593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0406 GMT
7 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—The Japanese Government decided Thursday [7 October] on a basic policy to expand imports to show Japan's commitment to structural reform, Trade Ministry officials said. The decision was made at a meeting of the trade conference, a forum of government ministers and private business executives chaired by Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa.

The policy reaffirms the need for improving international economic relations and the quality of life of the Japanese people by significantly reducing the current account surplus and correcting excessive gaps in domestic and overseas prices, the officials said.

Hosokawa told the conference, "it is most important for us as a maritime nation to maintain a free trade system. To this end, we will try all possible means."

The policy states that it is an urgent task for Japan to correct the huge current account imbalance and build an economic society where people can realize affluence. Structural expansion of imports is one of the most important means to this end, it said.

Hosokawa expressed his strong commitment toward structural reform to turn Japan's economy into one driven by domestic demand.

"We have to admit there is a structure where profits from the yen's appreciation are hardly passed on to the people, consumers," he said.

Recognizing that expansion of imports will benefit Japan by helping increase consumers' interest and activating industries, the policy focuses on easing of government regulations, stimulating fair competition, improving conventional business practices and promoting foreign investment in Japan, the officials said.

The policy is in line with the government's stance embodied in the emergency pump-priming package announced in mid-September.

It advocates 12 measures to boost imports effectively, including further reduction of import tariffs, easing or removing import restrictions such as standard certification, an item-by-item survey of the causes of differences in home and overseas prices and promotion of "foreign access zones" proposed by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI).

These zones are aimed at expanding imports by integrating the relevant facilities, such as distribution, exhibition and information centers for imports, around international airports and harbors, according to the MITI officials.

It is the first time for the trade conference to adopt a policy to expand imports since it started tackling the trade surplus problem after being renamed from the export conference in 1970.

Among the participants on the government side were Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii and International Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshi Kumagai. Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), and Isao Nakauchi, chairman of the Japan Chain Stores Association, were prominent among those from the private sector.

Hosokawa 'Concerned' About DPRK's Missile
*OW0710141293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1357 GMT
7 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa said Thursday [7 October] that he is seriously concerned about North Korea's development of new ballistic missile Nodong-1. Hosokawa, speaking at the day's session of the House of Councillors Budget Committee, said that with its current military equipment "Japan cannot physically counteract the Nodong-1 missile which is capable of striking in only 8 minutes and which will be coming down directly above our heads."

The Defense Agency earlier said the North Koreans test-fired the ballistic missile, which has an estimated range of 1,000 kilometers, at a steep trajectory so as to deliberately shorten its range during the test trial. "I am very concerned about the missile...It is crucial for us to work out how to counteract it," Hosokawa said in reply to Liberal Democratic Party member Kiyoko Ono.

North Korea confirmed the test-firing in September. The missile can reportedly deliver both nuclear and biological warheads.

Defense Agency Director General Keisuke Nakanishi also told the committee session it will take "a considerable time" to jointly develop the theater missile defense (TMD) antimissile system with the United States. The program, an improved version of the Patriot missile used to destroy Iraqi Scud missiles in the 1991 Persian Gulf war, is designed to knock down a high-altitude missile like the Nodong-1.

Nakanishi agreed in a September meeting with U.S. Defense Secretary Les Aspin to consider the joint development within the framework of a working-level meeting of defense officials.

"At present, even the United States does not possess military means to shoot down the missile, which approaches its target from a very high altitude," Nakanishi said.

Bidding System Revision Said Sought by Year End

OW0610222693

[Editorial report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 0000 GMT on 3 October, in its regularly scheduled "Toron" program, carries a 75-minute panel discussion entitled "Pay-Off Scandals Involving Local Government Leaders, General Construction Firms." The program, moderated by NHK commentator Hidemi Yoshimura and noted freelance commentator Naoki Tanaka, has Construction Minister Kozo Igarashi, Home Affairs Minister Kanju Sato, Governor Morihiko Hiramatsu of Oita Prefecture, and Governor Toshitami Kaihara of Hyogo Prefecture as guest speakers.

When asked for comments on recent pay-off scandals involving local government leaders, Construction Minister Igarashi states: "The total number of public work projects reaches approximately 470,000 every year. Among these, 90 percent in quantity, or 70 percent in value, are handled by local governments. Therefore, fair execution of public works projects is becoming a very important issue for local-level administration." Home Affairs Minister Sato states: "As a cabinet member in charge of political reform, I am working on anticorruption measures and election system reform at the national level. Since we are seeking drastic measures for decentralizing government authorities in line with public demands, it is extremely regrettable that such scandals are raised among local governments."

On the other hand, prefectural governors express their concern that these scandals damage public confidence of all local government bodies, and this may encourage central government officials who have negative opinions on stronger local autonomy. Oita Governor Hiramatsu states: "My biggest concern is the central government's distrust of local governments. We have long been asking for transition of licensing authorities monopolized by the central government, but these scandals will give good excuses to government officials who say local governments are unqualified to control stronger authorities."

Discussing reasons of the endless bribery cases involving major contractors, participants note the main cause to be defects in the bidding system of public works, particularly, the so-called designated biddings—biddings opened to prequalified companies only.

At 0041 GMT, Home Affairs Minister Sato hints at the government's plan to review the current bidding system in the near future, saying: "The designated bidding system has many problems. We have already screened out bidding-related problems nationwide in cooperation with the Construction Ministry, and are seeking a bidding system revision before the end of this year. We are looking for new standards for assigning contractors, and we believe it is necessary to make the selection process more visible to the public."

Construction Minister Igarashi states: "The Construction Ministry intends to experimentally introduce open biddings, with certain prequalification standards, on 13 projects which cost about 1 billion yen." In addition, Igarashi discloses the ministry directed local government bodies are to adopt open biddings as much as possible, but says the reform should be promoted on the step-by-step basis and the designated biddings are unlikely to be eliminated immediately. He says: "For the time being, the designated biddings should be maintained to handle numerous public work projects because there is no other choice. The important point is to secure visible screening procedures in the designated bidding system. All 3,300 local government bodies have their standards to select contractors, but I think less than 50 percent of them open such standards to the public. So, the first stage of bidding reform is to make these standards public."

Rengo Vows To Help Form Two-Party SystemOW0710153493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1452 GMT
7 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—Japan's largest labor organization Rengo vowed Thursday [7 October] to push a proposal to form a "two-party system" by promoting a reconfiguration of ties among the nation's political parties. The eight million-strong Japanese trade union confederation made the pledge in a series of resolutions adopted at the union's national convention in Tokyo.

"Political parties should push a realignment of their ties by breaking away from the existing framework of their relationship. Our union will seek to form a two-party system eventually," a resolution said.

The resolution also indicated Rengo's readiness to withdraw its long-time support for the Social Democratic Party and Democratic Socialist Party and throw its weight behind three new conservative parties—the Japan New Party, Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party) and Sakigake (Harbinger).

"We will review our fixed relationship with political parties," it said. "We will make it our basic policy to push a convergence of political forces capable of maintaining power in place of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP]," the resolution said.

The LDP lost its 38-year lock on power as the result of massive defections of its legislators and an electoral defeat on July 18.

Addressing the convention attended by Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and coalition government leaders, Rengo leader Akira Yamagishi said, "Our union strongly hopes that the ruling coalition parties will do their utmost to legislate by the year-end political reform bills modeled on the original government-proposed bills."

On the diplomatic front, the resolution also called on political parties to have the Self-Defense Forces (SDF)

"cooperate with the United Nations more actively than ever before." However, it urged the government to dilute the character of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty as a military alliance, while holding down the military capability of the SDF in line with the policy of pushing "disarmament."

Another resolution called on the government to enact a bill to give limited legitimacy to the SDF to make up for the shortfalls in the Constitution that bars Japan from maintaining "land, sea and air forces as well as other war potential." Rengo and many other trades unions have long questioned the constitutionality of the SDF and called on the government to limit its military capability.

Yamagishi also urged the government to "implement an income tax cut of more than 5 trillion yen by floating bridging bonds" to finance the revenue shortfalls expected to result from the tax cut. He denounced Takeshi Nagano, president of the Japan Federation of Employers' Associations, for saying Wednesday that business corporations need to cut wage levels to counter the adverse effects of the strong yen in the export sector. Yamagishi said such a remark would throw cold water on private consumption by affecting consumer psychology.

Meanwhile, the Rengo leadership came under criticism from some union members who charged that the SDP suffered a major electoral setback in July due to his policy of withdrawing support from legislators affiliated with the party's left wing.

Komeito [Clean Government Party] Chairman Koshiro Ishida, a quest speaker at the convention, said, "I believe a two-party system will be formed in the future." However, SDP Chairman Tomiichi Murayama told the same session, "I do not back a proposal to reorganize the political community into two major conservative parties."

Hosokawa Expresses Concern Over Domestic Economy

OW0710114693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1132 GMT
7 Oct 93

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 7 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa expressed concern over the domestic economy on Thursday [7 October], saying its present condition is worse than a month ago. Hosokawa told the House of Councillors Budget Committee there are structural problems behind the slump but that the situation worsened because of the steep appreciation of the Japanese yen and bad weather.

Citing a package of pump-priming measures unveiled by the government in September, Hosokawa expressed hope that the people can look forward toward recovery. He said the issue of an income tax cut must be dealt with carefully, but that it is difficult to implement one when the source of funding it is taken into account.

Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii told the same session that a deficit-covering bond issue would be necessary to carry out an income tax cut but such a step will not benefit the people in the long run.

Mongolia

Government Regrets China's Nuclear Explosion

LD0610131593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1212
GMT 6 Oct 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Kim Boldokhonov]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, October 6 (TASS)—The Mongolian Foreign Ministry expressed on Wednesday deep regret at a nuclear detonation made by China on October 5.

A statement circulated here on this occasion stresses that this move by China can have negative influence on a planned international conference on the complete prohibition of nuclear tests and on other powers which can resume the testing of these mass destruction weapons.

Commenting on this action by China, head of the Mongolian Foreign Ministry press department Terbishyn Chimiddorzh stressed that the four nuclear powers, supporting the U.S. President's initiative, undertook not to resume nuclear testing up to the end of September 1994.

The above moves created good prerequisites to start talks aimed at concluding a treaty on the full-scale prohibition of mass destruction weapons, he continued.

The Mongolian side expressed its negative attitude to China's intention to detonate a nuclear charge on September 22, Chimiddorzh noted.

Tsedenbal's Son Accuses Soviet KGB of Murder

LD0210202393 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1939
GMT 2 Oct 93

[Text] Moscow October 2 TASS—Zorig, the son of the former communist leader of Mongolia Yumjaagijn Tsedenbal, accused former Soviet authorities and the KGB of ousting his father in 1984 and of "actually murdering him".

Zorig qualified the 1984 events in Mongolia as a "coup d'etat" and said that his father was forced by the KGB to live for seven years in the Soviet Union as a "hostage and a prisoner".

In an interview with the "NOVAYA GAZETA" on Saturday he said he had unveiled certain details of his father's life in the Soviet Union in his book called "Seven Last Years of Tsedenbal".

"The coup was taking place in Ulaanbaatar but he was kept here, in Moscow and there was no possibility to leave", Zorig said, adding that special drugs were injected to Tsedenbal in the Soviet government hospital.

"This was a slow and gradual murder", he said explaining that the drugs made his father an invalid.

Tsedenbal arrived in Moscow for rest upon an official invitation of the then General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Konstantin Chernenko.

After arrival he was checked in the government hospital and Doctor Chazov, head of the special government 4th medical department, said that Tsedenbal was ill and could no longer fulfil his duties, according to Zorig.

Former KGB Chairman Chebrikov had then met Zorig's mother and categorically stated that Tsedenbal had to resign because of illness.

The wife insisted that an international commission be set up to check her husband's health, but to no avail. When she said that Tsedenbal is to leave Moscow for Ulaanbaatar soon, Chebrikov answered that "he would not arrive alive", according to Zorig.

In Ulaanbaatar Zorig met Doctor Chazov who said that Tsedenbal had a brain disease. "This is nonsense, he was in good health", Zorig insists.

The son of the former Mongolian leader said the situation resembled the scenario of the abortive hard-line anti-Gorbachev coup in Moscow in 1991: the head of state is isolated, all communications are switched off, the president is declared ill.

North Korea

Radio Reports on Situation in Russia

SK0710093993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2213 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] According to reports from the ITAR-TASS News Agency, the situation in Moscow became complicated after the president's decree was announced on 21 September suspending the activities of the Russian People's Deputies Congress and the Supreme Soviet. The situation became extremely serious in early October but is now getting under control.

A mass rally to defend the Constitution, sponsored by the Moscow Municipal General Staff, was held on 2 October at the (Smolensk) plaza, located in front of the Russian Foreign Ministry building. Participants of the rally and the masses gathered right behind the police-cordoned area clashed with police when they tried to forcibly disperse the rally. Many people were injured as a result. This set off a political crisis, which became critical during the past 10 days.

After this violent incident, Rutskoy wrote a letter of appeal urging the Russian people to undertake an uprising. On 3 October, each political party, organization, and person supporting the Supreme Soviet, changed the venue of the gathering to disperse the government authorities' blockade of the Supreme Soviet. Using this as an opportunity, 5,000 people gathered in

front of Gorky Park violently clashed with the police near the blockade line at the (Cream) Bridge and near the building were the demonstration was taking place. They, thus, approached the Supreme Soviet building.

When they arrived in front of the building, the demonstrators held a meeting. Khasbulatov and Rutskoy made speeches. They appealed to the people to seize the Moscow City Hall and the Ostankino Broadcasting Station. As soon as they said this, the Soviet Government building was immediately filled with armed people. Then, part of City Hall was occupied by 20,000 demonstrators and a violent offensive and defensive battle took place between rival armed individuals at the Ostankino Broadcasting Station.

As a result, the Ostankino Television Broadcasting Station temporarily stopped its broadcasts, and the ITAR-TASS News Agency also temporarily suspended its transmissions because of the attack by the armed people supporting the Supreme Soviet.

On the evening of 3 October, the Russian president issued a decree and announced a state of emergency for Moscow. According to another Russian presidential decree, Lieutenant General (Kulikov) was appointed commander of the garrison headquarters for the state of emergency in Moscow, and Rutskoy was dismissed as the vice president. In addition, the ministers of home affairs, security, and defense were given the authority to establish a joint mobilization headquarters to guarantee the state of emergency, provide forces and means to the commander of the garrison headquarters, and make the commander of the garrison headquarters report to the joint mobilization headquarters.

On 3 October, Yeltsin issued an appeal to the Russian people. In the appeal he said that blood was shed in Moscow. He pointed out that violence and civil war is unnecessary for Moscovites as well as Russians. He also said that Moscow's order will be restored in the shortest period of time and that he has strength to achieve it.

On 4 October, the Army was ordered into Moscow and the (Kantsemirov) mechanization infantry division, the (Taman) tank division, the 27th mechanization independent brigade, and some forces of the aviation ground combat forces were mobilized. The government Army's armored transportation cars and tanks completely surrounded the parliamentary building.

[Word indistinct] started such as firing of automatic guns and machine guns near the Supreme Soviet building and this gradually escalated into the firing of large caliber weapons, including tanks, at the Supreme Soviet building.

The attempt of the Supreme Soviet supporters to occupy the Ostankino Broadcasting Station and the ITAR-TASS News Agency was prevented, and after many hours of fierce fighting the Russian Government's Army occupied the Supreme Soviet building. Many people, including Rutskoy and Khasbulatov, were arrested on

this day. On the evening of 4 October, sporadic firing continued near the parliament building, its surroundings, and other areas of the capital.

It was learned that many people were killed or injured during the 3 and 4 October fighting. The Soviets were dispersed in Moscow; the publication of some papers, including PRAVDA and SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, was suspended; and the activities of a number of political parties and organizations, including the Salvation Front and the Russian Communist Party, were banned.

PRC Statement on Nuclear Test Cited

SK0710074093 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] According to a XINHUA report, on 5 October the Chinese Government issued a statement regarding its nuclear test. It stated that China conducted an underground nuclear test on 5 October 1993. The statement noted that China's development and possession of a small amount of nuclear weapons is totally for self-defense purposes.

The statement recalled that China not only has insisted for a long time on the overall banning and abolition of nuclear weapons, but also insists on an overall banning of nuclear test within this (?category).

The statement noted: China strongly demands that all countries possessing nuclear weapons hold talks to conclude an international agreement on unconditionally abstain from using nuclear weapons first and abstain from using or threatening to use nuclear weapons against nonnuclear countries and nuclear-free zones.

The statement declared that, if a treaty on the overall banning of nuclear test is concluded and effectuated, China will observe the treaty and no longer conduct a nuclear test.

The statement stressed: Those countries possessing the largest nuclear weapon (?stores) should, in a responsible manner, take the initiative in refraining their activity of developing nuclear weapons and should renounce their nuclear blackmailing policy seeking to use nuclear weapons first and to use nuclear weapons or to threaten to use them against nonnuclear countries and nuclear-free zones. They should also clearly promise to totally ban and abolish nuclear weapons and to sharply reduce their nuclear weapons on a continuous basis.

South Charged With 'Military Provocations'

SK0710044693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0417 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppets openly committed military provocations in Paju and Yonchon Counties, Kyonggi Province, and Inje and Chorwon Counties, South Korean Kangwon Province, areas near the Demilitarized Zone

(DMZ) opposite the North side's areas, on October 4 and 5, according to military sources.

On October 5, tank groups and large-caliber artillery groups of the puppet army massed in positions in Paju, Inje and Yonchon Counties fired scores of shells into areas adjacent to the DMZ.

On October 4 and 5, they deployed large-caliber guns and scores of armored and other military vehicles near the DMZ, inciting a bloody war atmosphere.

In separate action, the South Korean puppets deployed five helicopter gunships in broad daylight on the Paeng-nyong Island on October 5.

Their reckless war rackets are part of their premeditated provocative moves to deliberately render the situation strained in the region.

The South Korean puppets must stop acting rashly, looking straight at the consequences to be entailed by their military provocations.

South Urged To Clarify Position on Questions

SK0710104493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Commentary by Yun Pyong-son: "They Should Express Their Clear Position First"]

[Text] The contact of working-level delegates for the exchange of North-South highest-level special envoys took place in Panmunjom on 5 October, amid the great expectation and concern of the people at home and abroad. The special envoys will discuss various questions raised on North-South relations, including denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

As you know, our side had made every effort to realize the contact after proposing the exchange of the two sides' highest-level special envoys at the end of last May. The working-level contact for the exchange of special envoys, however, had not been realized because the South side had not accepted our repeated proposals and because it had avoided expressing its clear position on the two principled questions put forth by us to stop all nuclear war exercises against fellow countrymen and to not pursue the international mutual cooperation system in connection with the nuclear issue. The South side, then, responded to our generous proposal for holding the contact and, thus, the contact was held. It can be said this time that the contact is the result of the sincere efforts made by us.

At the contact that day, our side mentioned the working-level procedural matters arising in the exchange of special envoys, including the position of the special envoys, their missions and duties, and the method for exchanging special envoys. Our side, then, demanded that the South side express its clear attitude toward

stopping all nuclear war exercises against fellow countrymen and not pursuing the international mutual cooperation system in connection with the nuclear issue in order to create an atmosphere for the exchange of special envoys. In view of the importance of the exchange of special envoys, the expectation pinned by the compatriots on this, and the lesson taught by previous dialogues, such a principled demand by us is a totally just one.

Our demand included the expectation that the South will be a good faith party in the dialogue. Our earnest position was to realize the exchange of special envoys successfully by all means and to try to solve the questions raised in North-South relations in conformity with the national interests by having special envoys fulfill their lofty missions and duties smoothly.

On that day, however, the South side came up with absurd excuses saying that the principled questions raised by us are not the ones to be discussed at the working-level contact, that the questions are preconditions, and so forth, thus avoiding giving an answer to our demand. These are truly clumsy excuses.

Dialogue should be the one of good faith. When parties to dialogue sit face to face with a dagger in their belt, they cannot hold a dialogue smoothly and cannot expect any success from it either. This is a serious lesson that previous dialogues, which brought about no success even though they were held and bore no fruition even though agreements were made, taught us.

How can dialogue be held in good faith and successfully, while a party to dialogue is conducting the nuclear war exercise, which will inflict nuclear disaster on the other side to dialogue, and is pursuing the international mutual cooperation system in order to do harm to the compatriots under the pretext of our nonexistent nuclear issue? For the two parties to sit face to face under such circumstances is virtually an unreasonable and absurd thing.

At the contact that day, the South side raved that there are no nuclear war exercises on the Korean peninsula and that the exercises conducted are annual and defensive ones using conventional weapons. This is a brazen sophistry.

Apart from other examples, command planes for full scope nuclear war and nuclear assault planes have been hurled into the Team Spirit joint military exercises conducted in South Korea every year, and nuclear bomb-drop exercises have been conducted during the Team Spirit exercises on a frequent basis. This proves that the South side has conducted nuclear war exercises. Furthermore, ultramodern weapons, including the F-117 Stealth fighter-bombers and the Patriot antimissile missiles, which demonstrated their might during the Persian Gulf war, were newly mobilized in the Team Spirit joint military exercise conducted this year. Nevertheless, the South side raved that they are not nuclear war exercises

and that the exercises are defensive ones using conventional weapons. This is a childish trick aimed at covering up the danger and aggressive nature of the nuclear war exercises conducted by the South side against fellow countrymen and at misleading the public opinion.

All these facts show that although the South side responded to the working-level delegates' contact, its insincere position remains unchanged and that the South side has no intention to solve the problem through the exchange of special envoys.

The two principled questions raised by us is a yardstick for measuring whether or not the South side intends to exchange special envoys and whether or not it intends to improve North-South relations.

If the South side truly wants to exchange special envoys, it should depart from the obsolete way of confrontational thinking and should first express its clear position at the next contact.

Change in Attitude Demanded

SK0710053493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423
GMT, 7 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—If the South side really wants the exchange of special envoys and the resolution of the nuclear and other problems between the North and the South, it must clearly manifest its attitude toward the principled demand of the North, demands MINJU CHOSON today.

At the contact of working delegates at Panmunjom on October 5 for the exchange of presidential envoys between the North and the South, the South side did not meet our just demand for clearly manifesting its attitude toward two questions of principle—to stop nuclear war exercises and not to pursue "international cooperation system" in the nuclear problem.

This shows the insincere stance of dialogue of the South side, says the news analyst, and continues:

It is quite impossible and unreasonable on all accounts for the two sides to sit together and discuss and solve the denuclearisation and other matters for the improvement of the North-South relations while one side is staging large-scale nuclear war exercises against the other side and crying for the "international cooperation system" to put "pressure" on and take "sanctions" against the other with the help of outside forces.

This time, we urged once again the South side to clearly manifest its attitude toward the two questions of principle, in order to create a good atmosphere and make the exchange of special envoys successfully bear good fruits without turns and twists as it was proposed and has become mature through hard efforts.

At the contact, however, the South side avoided meeting our just demand, arguing that it was "outside its authority." Why? It is because they seek to mislead public

opinion at home and abroad by pretending to do dialogue and, behind the scene, attain some insidious purpose by putting pressure on the North with the help of outside forces. It is, however, too foolish an attempt.

The South side cannot evade the blame for obstructing the exchange of special envoys with nuclear war exercises and pursuance of the "international cooperation system."

NODONG SINMUN Delegation Visits PRC

SK0110111593 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 29 Sep 93

[Text] Li Peiyao, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress, met on 27 September with a NODONG SINMUN delegation visiting China.

Li Renchen, deputy editor in chief of the Chinese RENMIN RIBAO, and Pae Yong-chae, DPRK charge d'affaires ad interim to the PRC, were on hand at this meeting.

PRC Trade Delegation Arrives in Pyongyang

SK0510062393 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] A Chinese Government trade delegation led by Zheng Silin, vice minister of foreign trade and economic cooperation, arrived in Pyongyang today by airplane.

The delegation was greeted by Yi Song-nok, vice chairman of the External Economy Commission and councilor in the PRC Embassy in our country.

Party Official Meets Visiting CPC Friendship Group

SK0510051693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 5 (KCNA)—Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Monday met and had a friendly talk with the friendship visiting group of the Communist Party of China [CPC] led by Ding Fengying, member of the central commission for discipline inspection of the CPC and secretary of the Hubei Provincial party commission for discipline inspection.

Present there was Chinese Ambassador to Korea Qiao Zonghuai.

The head of the group said that, while visiting Korea, his group had seen at first hand the excellent achievements made by the Korean people in socialist construction under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. "The Communist Party, Government and people of China are sincerely rejoiced over the achievements of the Korean people in socialist construction," he stated.

"Sino-Korean friendship," he said, "will be everlasting as it has been provided by the leaders of the two countries."

Armed Forces Minister Greets Egyptian Minister

SK0510112993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 5 (KCNA)—Minister of People's Armed Forces Marshal O Chin-u sent a message of greetings to Colonel General Muhammad Husayn Tantawi, minister of defence of Egypt, on the occasion of the 20th Army Day in Egypt. Expressing the belief that the excellent friendly and cooperative relations between the two peoples and armies will further expand and develop day by day, the message wishes him success in his responsible work for increasing the defence capability of his country.

Reception Held for Army Day

SK0710053893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0431 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—Hani Khalid Ahmed, Military Attaché of the Egyptian Embassy here, hosted a reception at the Ognyu restaurant Wednesday on the army day of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Present at the reception on invitation were Vice Marshal Kim Kwang-chin and general Chon Chae-son of the Korean People's Army, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Chang Song-kil, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries Yi Chol-sin, officials concerned and generals and officers of the KPA.

Foreign diplomatic envoys and military attachés of foreign embassies here were also invited.

Egyptian Ambassador Ali Hegazi and his embassy officials were present.

Speeches were exchanged at the reception.

President Kim Il-song Greets Egyptian President

SK0710054093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on October 6 warmly congratulated Muhammad Husni Mubarak upon his reelection as President of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

President Kim Il-song in his message expressed the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will continue to strengthen and develop and sincerely wished the Egyptian president greater success in the work for building a prosperous Egypt and for a peaceful settlement of the Middle East problem.

Ambassador Presents Credentials to Malaysian King

SK0110111793 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0100 GMT 28 Sep 93

[Text] (Chu Myong-pal), our country's new ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Malaysia, on 24 September presented credentials to Malaysian King Sultan Azlan Shah.

The ambassador conveyed greetings to the king from the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. The king expressed deep gratitude for this and requested that the ambassador convey his warm greetings to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The king expressed a firm conviction of further development in the future of the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries, and said that he is gratified that the two countries, members of the United Nations and the nonalignment, share the same aspiration and view for solidifying peace and security in the region. He said that he welcomes all the efforts of the DPRK to achieve the reunification of Korea peacefully by means of negotiation.

Also on hand at the meeting were the Malaysian vice foreign minister, functionaries of the relevant sectors, and functionaries of the DPRK Embassy.

Malaysian Government Delegation Arrives

SK0510232193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1520 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 5 (KCNA)—A Malaysian Government delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar bin Baba arrived here today. It was met at the airport by Vice-Premier Hong Song-nam, chairman of the State External Economic Affairs Commission Yi Song-tae, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Kyu-il and other officials concerned.

Officials Hold Talks

SK0610113393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 6 (KCNA)—A government delegation of the DPRK held talks with the Malaysian Government delegation at the Mansudae assembly hall today.

Present at the talks on the Korean side were Vice-premier Hong Song-nam, chairman of the State External Economic Affairs Commission Yi Song-tae, Vice-minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Kyu-il and other officials concerned and on the opposite side were the members of the delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar bin Baba and the charge d'affaires ad interim of the Malaysian Embassy in Pyongyang.

The sides exchanged views on the further development of the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries and on a series of matters of mutual concern.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Banquet Held 6 Oct

SK0710075293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0440 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—The DPRK Government arranged a banquet on October 6 for the visiting Malaysian Government delegation.

Vice-premier Hong Song-nam made a speech.

He said that today the Malaysian people under the correct leadership of respected His Excellency Prime Minister Mahathir bin-Mohamed are registering enormous achievements in the work for the stability of the country and its prosperity today.

Noting that the Malaysian Government set a far-reaching goal to lift the country up to the standard of advanced countries by the year 2020 and is making energetic efforts for its attainment, he said: We sincerely rejoice over the achievements made by the Malaysian people in the building of a new society and wish them greater advance in the future.

"We," he declared, "support the proposal for the formation of the East Asia economic council advanced by the Malaysian Government recently and will render active cooperation in the work of building a prosperous new Asia."

Saying that to develop the friendly relations between Korea and Malaysia accords not only with the interests of the two peoples but with the common desire of the Asian people to build an independent, peaceful and prospering new Asia, he stated: "We are making every possible effort to continue to expand and develop the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries in many fields."

Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar bin Baba, head of the delegation, spoke next.

Noting that the relations between the two countries have developed favorably after the establishment of diplomatic relations between Malaysia and the DPRK, he expressed the firm belief that the friendly relations existing between the two countries would be further consolidated and developed in the future.

"Malaysia supports the noble idea and desire contained in "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country" put forward by His Excellency President Kim Il-song, particularly the stand of settling all the questions in a peaceful way on the basis of patriotism", he said.

He stated that Malaysia, a member of the Non-aligned Movement, pays homage to the DPRK for its active

support to the efforts to strengthen the economic cooperation and development among its members and hails Korea's efforts and cooperation in realising South-South cooperation.

"Malaysia hopes that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will be expanded and developed and believes that the economic and trade relations in particular would be further expanded and developed," he said, and stressed: "Our visit to your country will record a new chapter in the development of the relations between the two countries."

Workers Party of Bangladesh Leader Arrives

SK0510113093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018
GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 5 (KCNA)—Rashed Khan Menon, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Bangladesh, and his companion arrived here today.

They were met at the airport by Kim Yong-sun, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], and Kim Yang-kon, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee.

Reception Held 5 Oct

SK0610045793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0442
GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 6 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] hosted a reception Tuesday for Rashed Khan Menon, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Bangladesh, and his companion on a visit to Korea.

Kim Yong-sun, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the WPK, made a speech at the party.

He highly appreciated the energetic efforts of the Workers' Party of Bangladesh to readjust, expand and strengthen the party ranks, form an alliance with other leftist political parties, unite the broad popular masses around it and arouse them in the building of an independent, democratic new society.

Our party, he stated, will in the future make closer its bonds of friendship and solidarity, support and cooperation with your party in accomplishing the cause of independence against imperialism, of peace and socialism.

General Secretary Rashed Khan Menon spoke next. He noted that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and the Workers' Party of Korea is waging a powerful struggle for socialist construction and the reunification

of the country, in spite of all manner of obstructions of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique. The Workers' Party of Bangladesh will always stand on the side of the Workers' Party of Korea, he stated.

"We hold dear the friendly relations between the two parties and are very pleased that the WPK is playing an important role in defending socialism and strengthening the international labour movement", he said.

He stressed that the Pyongyang declaration serves as a guideline in defending and advancing the socialist cause and consolidating the unity and cohesion of progressive political parties.

Talks Held With Workers' Party

SK0710060293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0455
GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-sun, Alternate Politburo Member and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], held talks with Rashed Khan Menon, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bangladesh Workers' Party, at the Mansudae Assembly hall Wednesday.

Present at the talks was Kim Yang-kon, Vice-Director of a Department of the C.C. [Central Committee], WPK.

The sides at the talks exchanged views on the further development of relations between the two parties and on a series of matters of mutual concern.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Kim Il-song Sends Greeting to Guinea President

SK0110110993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030
GMT 1 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 1 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a message of greetings today to Lansana Conte, president and head of state of the Republic of Guinea, on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the independence of Guinea.

In the message he said in the past 35 years the Guinean people have made great strides forward in their endeavors to consolidate the national independence and build a prosperous new society.

He expressed the belief that the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries would continue to grow stronger and develop, and wished the president and people of Guinea success in their efforts for the stability and prosperity of the country.

Papers Mark Anniversary

*SK0310003193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2309
GMT 2 Oct 93*

[“35th Anniversary of Guinean Independence”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 2 (KCNA)—Papers here today dedicate by-lined articles to the 35th anniversary of the independence of Guinea.

An article of NODONG SINMUN points to the achievements made by the Guinean people in removing the consequences of the colonial rule and building a new life after the independence.

It goes on:

The Guinean Government is externally striving for the unity of Africa against imperialism, colonialism and racism.

The Korean people are rejoiced as over their own over the achievements made by the Guinean people.

The Korean people believe that the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries will continue to grow stronger and develop.

MINJU CHOSON in an article says that the Korean people congratulate the Guinean people on the independence day of the country and wish them new progress in their work to achieve national unity and political stability and develop the economy of the country.

Kim Il-song Receives Guinean Delegation

*SK0510114893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1035
GMT 5 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 5 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received a delegation of the Kim Il-song Institute of Agricultural Science in Guinea headed by its Director Alpha Toure on a visit to Korea.

Present on the occasion were Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea So Kwan-hui, Chairman of the State Agricultural Commission Kim Won-chin and President of the Academy of Agricultural Sciences Yi Yong-kyun.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

He gave a luncheon for them.

Kim Il-song Receives Gift

*SK0510114693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032
GMT 5 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 5 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received a gift from the visiting delegation of the Kim Il-song Institute of Agricultural Science in Guinea.

The gift was handed by its director Alpha Toure who is leading the delegation to an official concerned.

Kim Chong-il Receives Gift

*SK0510114793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1033
GMT 5 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 5 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from the visiting delegation of the Kim Il-song Institute of Agricultural Science in Guinea.

The gift was handed by its director Alpha Toure who is leading the delegation to an official concerned.

Foreign Minister Meets With Outgoing Ivorian Envoy

*SK0110094193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0412
GMT 1 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 1 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-nam, vice-premier and minister of Foreign Affairs, Thursday met and conversed with the outgoing ambassador of Cote D'Ivoire to Korea, Anet Nzi Nanan Koliabo [name as received], when the latter paid a farewell call on him.

Vice President Meets With Envoy

*SK0210071493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0426
GMT 2 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 2 (KCNA)—Vice-president Pak Song-chol met and conversed with outgoing Cote d'Ivoire ambassador to Korea Anet Nzi Nanan Koliabo at the Mansudae Assembly Hall Friday.

Vice-minister of Foreign Affairs Chang Song-kil was on hand.

More on Academics Laud Tangun Discovery

*SK0710053693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0429
GMT 7 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—It has been proved through the recent excavation of the tomb of Tangun in Pyongyang that Tangun was a real being 5,000 years ago and the founder of Kojoson (ancient Korea), not a mythical man. This news has evoked a lively response from our people.

Han In-ho of the institute of archaeology of the academy of social sciences said that the identification of the founder of the Korean nation and the restoration of the long history of five thousand years of our country are a brilliant fruition of the wise leadership of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who have established chuche in the study of national history. Kim Pyong-yong, head of a chair of Kim Hyong-chik University of education, said that the excavation of the tomb of Tangun and the discovery of his remains have convincingly proved the fact that Pyongyang, the capital of the revolution, is one of the

birthplaces of mankind, the birthplace of our Korean nation and the cradle of the first state. "This exalts the position of Pyongyang in the development of human history and culture and heightens the national pride and honor of our people," he noted, adding:

"Our people cannot repress resentment at the Japanese imperialists' policy of obliterating Tangun".

He denounced the crimes of Japanese imperialism in having decried the long history of the Korean nation, carried away precious historical relics by digging the tomb of Tangun by stealth and damaged the original tomb.

Corresponding member of the academy, Prof. and Dr. Ho Chong-ho, a room chief of the institute of history of the academy of social sciences, said that the restoration of Tangun as a real being before our 70 million compatriots is, indeed, a historical event worthy of particular note. "It has been proved that ours is a homogeneous nation with a history spanning 5,000 years. This will make not only the present generation but the posterity to powerfully struggle for the prosperity of the nation, deeply loving the country and the nation with high spirit of national independence and honor," he stressed.

President Gives Guidance to Fruit Farmers

SK0710054893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453
GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Pyongyang, October 7 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song gave guidance in fruit-farming.

He was accompanied by Kang Song-san, Han Song-yong, So Yun-sok, Choe Yong-nim, Hong Song-nam, Kang Hui-won, Kim Tal-hyon, Yon Hyong-muk, So Kwan-hui, Kim Pok-sin and Kim Yun-hyok, chairmen of Commissions and Ministers of the Administration Council, chief secretaries of the provincial party committees, officials in the domains of fruit-farming and agricultural scientific research.

After acquainting himself with the concrete situation of the development of the nation's pomiculture through his on-the-spot guidance to fruit farms and several consultative meetings, President Kim Il-song convened a meeting of officials in the domain of fruit-farming and set forth concrete tasks arising in lifting fruit-farming to a new, higher stage.

He stated that a dramatic turn has been effected in fruit production with the appearance of large orchards of hundreds of thousands of hectares and building of solid material and technical foundations of fruit growing in the past 30 odd years since the historical pukchong enlarged meeting which aroused the whole party, the whole country and the entire people in grand nature-remaking in the country.

He said that this great change in the past period is a brilliant fruition of our party's policy of making the nature and society serve the people by transforming the

nature of the country as demanded by the chuche idea and a proud demonstration of the inexhaustible creative ingenuity of our people unfailingly faithful to the leadership of the party.

He urged that the efforts of the whole state and all people should be continuously directed to the development of fruit-growing to consolidate and further expand the achievements already made in the implementation of the decision of the Pukchong meeting and thus, a new innovation should be effected in the management of fruit farms, a creation attained on the sweat of our people and precious wealth of the country, and in fruit cultivation.

Stressing that sustained work should be done to increase the fertility of soil, if fruit-production is to be raised through an effective protection and management of the fruit farms built with painstaking efforts, he indicated a way for this.

Noting that a higher fruit yield requires the supply of sufficient water to fruit trees, he said that the already-completed irrigation set-ups should be made to pay off and, at the same time, an energetic drive should be launched to complete new irrigation projects.

He said that fruit farms and cooperative farms should produce large quantities of early-ripening fruits such as strawberry, cherry and apricot for the people.

Stressing that good strains of fruits suited to the climate of the country should be planted extensively, he highly estimated the achievements of agricultural scientists who had raised tasty and high-yielding excellent species of fruits in the past with the devotion of all their wisdom and energy, upholding the party's policy of green revolution.

He gave instructions to produce and supply efficient farm machines needed for the cultivation of fruit farms in greater number.

To build up orchards under a far-reaching plan, it is necessary to replace old trees with new ones in a planned manner by giving priority to the production of saplings of fruit trees.

He said that many fruit storages should be built at fruit producing centres and consumer areas in keeping with the increase of fruit production and fruit processing be further developed to turn out much more fruit syrup and canned fruits for the people.

He put forward tasks to powerfully conduct the work of managing and creating forests of oil-bearing trees and trees of industrial use through a massive movement, along with fruit-farming.

In order to cover all the mountains of the country with forests of oil-bearing trees and trees of industrial use, all the units including industrial establishments should undertake a brisk work for creating forests through a massive movement, he stressed.

Saying that the work of actively developing fruit-farming and creating extensive forests of oil-bearing trees and trees of industrial use is an important work for the building of the land of the country into a socialist paradise and for the prosperity and development of the country and improvement of the people's wellbeing, President Kim Il-song expressed the belief that the whole country and all people will turn out and fully display patriotic devotion and creative ingenuity to repay the high expectation and trust of the party.

South Korea

Seoul 'Would Welcome' Informal Summit With Tokyo

SK0710022493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0136 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 7 (YONHAP)—South Korea would welcome a weekend visit by Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa for summit talks, a well-placed source said Thursday.

Tokyo unofficially proposed a weekend summit a few days ago, suggesting that Hosokawa make a private visit for talks in an "informal" atmosphere, according to the source.

Japan's **MAINICHI SHIMBUN** has reported that Hosokawa is considering a visit to South Korea on Nov. 6-7, since a weekday trip is difficult while the Diet (parliament) is in session.

The summit would be the first between the new administrations of the two countries.

Former South Korean President No Tae-u set a precedent for an informal summit when he went to Kyoto in November last year on a one-day visit for talks with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

"It is something we would wholeheartedly welcome," the source said.

The foreign ministers of the two countries met in Tokyo last month and agreed to arrange a bilateral summit during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) leaders' meeting in Seattle on Nov. 20.

But Tokyo apparently wants to meet in Korea instead of in a third country and avoid a rush at the APEC meeting, where state leaders or high-level representatives from 15 members will come together, the source said.

Seoul wouldn't mind arranging the summit in the capital, although No went to Kyoto instead of Tokyo, he said.

Seoul: No Proposal Received

SK0710060693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0502 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 7 (YONHAP)—Chongwadae has not, contrary to reports in the Japanese press, received a proposal from Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa to visit Seoul for a summit with President Kim Yong-sam, a ranking Chongwadae official said on Thursday.

"There is no way of confirming at the present moment whether Prime Minister Hosokawa is considering a visit to Seoul," he said. "I'm sure that there has been no official contact between the two countries about his visit."

Asked whether Chongwadae would respond positively if Tokyo proposed such a visit, the official replied, "I can't say anything right now."

Iranian Foreign Minister To Visit Seoul 6-9 Oct

SK0410071093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0624 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 4 (YONHAP)—Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati visits Seoul on Oct. 6-9 at the invitation of his South Korean counterpart, Han Sung-chu, the Foreign Ministry announced Monday.

Velayati, the First Iranian Foreign Minister to come to South Korea since the Islamic revolution, will meet with Han for talks on regional developments and bilateral cooperation. He is to call on President Kim Yong-sam and tour the Taejon Expo during his stay.

Seoul and Tehran normalized relations in October 1962 and Iran stands as the third biggest crude oil exporter to South Korea. Two-way trade amounted to 1.62 billion U.S. dollars last year, 560 million dollars in exports and 1.06 billion dollars in imports. Korea is engaged in 2.8 billion dollars worth of construction projects in Iran.

Arrives in Seoul

SK0610131993 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1230 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] The foreign minister of Iran, which has close diplomatic ties with North Korea, has come to the ROK for the first time after the 1979 Iranian revolution.

During a new conference at the airport, Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati said that he hoped economic cooperation between the ROK and Iran would expand greatly.

Seeks Economic Cooperation

SK0710063593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0536 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 7 (YONHAP)—Iran sought South Korea's assistance for its economic development plans in foreign ministers' talks on Thursday.

'Ali Akbar Velayati, the first Iranian Foreign Minister to come to Seoul since the Islamic revolution of 1979, told his Korean counterpart, Han Sung-chu, that Tehran sought participation by Seoul in its five-year economic development plan, officials said.

He drew special attention to the free trade zone being built in Qeshm near Hormuz and said it will require 15 billion U.S. dollars to establish the infrastructure alone.

Han explained Seoul's position on the North Korean nuclear problem and stressed that Pyongyang must comply fully with its safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Velayati answered that North Korea must keep its promises to the international community, including staying in the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT), the officials said.

Iran, which has diplomatic relations with both Seoul and Pyongyang, abstained from a vote by the IAEA on a resolution against North Korea.

Iran's Support in Solving Nuclear Issue Sought

SK0710105493 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1018 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] President Kim Yong-sam met with visiting Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati in the afternoon of 7 October. He asked Iran, which maintains good relations with both South and North Korea, to give its support in solving the South-North nuclear issue through dialogue.

President Kim said: The ROK has no intention of reunifying the country through the absorption of North Korea, and wants to reunify it by stages [tangyejok] through dialogue.

He also asked the Iranian Government to take greater care of the personal security of Koreans in Iran.

Iran: To Support, Cooperate

SK0710112393 Seoul YONHAP in English 1056 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 7 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam met visiting first Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati at Chongwadae [presidential offices] on Thursday afternoon to exchange opinions on matters of mutual concern.

President Kim said that so far as South Korea is concerned, North Korea's nuclear development constitutes a matter of great concern, and asked Iran to cooperate in getting the nuclear issue resolved inasmuch as Iran maintains amicable relations with both Koreas.

Chongwadae spokesman Yi Kyong-chae said President Kim also expressed satisfaction at a remarkable progress registered in bilateral cooperative relations especially in the diplomatic and economic areas.

The Iranian minister said his country strongly supports Korea's unification, saying Iran would furnish cooperation in it whenever it is necessary.

During the meeting, Minister Velayati conveyed to President Kim Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's congratulations on the birth of the new government in Seoul, and President Kim asked Velayati to give his greetings to the Iranian president on his re-election.

Minister To Visit China, Discuss Nuclear Test

SK0710012993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0115 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 7 (YONHAP)—Seoul will express its concerns about China's recent underground nuclear test and its possible negative impact on the North Korean nuclear situation when Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu visits Beijing later this month, officials said Thursday.

Han will be in China from Oct. 28 for meetings with his counterpart, Qian Qichen. He is also expected to meet with Chinese leader Jiang Zemin.

South Korea immediately responded with worry that Beijing's nuclear test throws cold water on the global movement for Nuclear Nonproliferation. The break in international cooperation for control on nuclear development is feared to send the wrong message to Pyongyang, which is refusing outside inspection of its suspected atomic facilities.

France strongly reacted by saying it may cancel its moratorium on nuclear testing, following a similar reaction by U.S. President Bill Clinton.

The Foreign Ministry officials said that they will take the opportunity of Han's visit to clearly express Seoul's concerns at these developments, with special emphasis on their potential to negatively affect efforts to solve the North Korean nuclear situation.

"We will be watching how the matter develops, but we have to take up the issue with China," one official said.

North Reports PRC Nuclear Test, Russian Unrest

SK0710043093 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0320 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] According to NAEWOE News Agency, North Korea has reported the resumption by the PRC Government of nuclear testing. On 7 October, North Korea's state-run Central Broadcast carried an item on the statement released by the PRC Government on 5 October regarding the nuclear test. The North Korean radio also reported the content of the statement, which said the possession of nuclear weapons by the PRC is entirely for its own use.

North Korea also belatedly reported without comment on the bloody incident in Russia that ended with the defeat of the conservatives.

Seoul, China Begin Aviation Talks

SK0610024293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0137 GMT
6 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 6 (YONHAP)—The fourth South Korea-China aviation talks opened in Seoul on Wednesday for a four-day meeting in which the two sides have the highest incentives yet to reach an agreement.

An agreement would open direct services between the capitals, which normalized diplomatic relations in August 1992. China will be able to connect with other Asian cities through Seoul, and Korea with Europe through Beijing, if the agreement recognizes beyond rights. But Seoul and Beijing first have to decide on the control transfer point, whether it should be 124 degrees longitude as Korea demands or 125 degrees as China insists. They also have to decide how many airline companies can fly on the route. Beijing wants one, but Seoul wants free competition by multiple airlines.

Yu Pyong-u, Director-General of the Asian Affairs Bureau at the Foreign Ministry and Seoul's chief negotiator, warned against optimism but officials say the incentive is at the highest point.

Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu visits China later this month and the two sides want to take the opportunity to sign an aviation agreement.

Ke Deming, deputy director of the Civil Aviation Administration of China, leads Beijing's negotiating team.

Hearing on Loan to Russia Called Off

SK0710061193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0506 GMT
7 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 7 (YONHAP)—The ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) has decided not to hold a hearing on the decision to lend 3 billion U.S. dollars to the Soviet Union, DLP floor leader Kim Yong-ku said Thursday.

The National Assembly Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee was going to hold a hearing on the decision-making process for the loan, which Russia took over after the Soviet Union broke up and is responsible for repaying.

"We have decided not to hold the hearing, considering the current unstable situation in Russia," Kim said. "Besides, committee chairman Chong Chae-mun has reported that the ruling and opposition parties failed to reach a clear agreement on whether to hold the hearing at a meeting on Sept. 27."

Venezuelan Foreign Minister To Visit 7 Oct

SK0510011893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0101 GMT
5 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 5 (YONHAP)—Venezuelan Foreign Minister Fernando Ochoa Antich visits Seoul on Oct. 7-9 and will conclude an agreement on science and technology cooperation, the Foreign Ministry announced Tuesday.

Antich will meet with his South Korean counterpart, Han Sung-chu, for talks on political and economic cooperation, call on President Kim Yong-sam and talk with leading businessmen while touring industrial sites.

The Venezuelan official is the first guest of the foreign minister since diplomatic normalization in 1965.

Visa Waiver, Cultural Pacts Signed

SK0710030293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0205 GMT
7 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 7 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Venezuela will sign agreements on visa waiver and cultural cooperation while Venezuelan Foreign Minister Fernando Ochoa Antich is in Seoul this week, the Foreign Ministry said Thursday.

The visa waiver accord, to be signed Friday, exempts diplomats and government officials from visa requirements when entering each other's country.

The foreign minister arrived on Thursday for a three-day visit that includes talks with his Korean counterpart, Han Sung-chu, a call on President Kim Yong-sam and trade discussions with business leaders.

It is the first visit by a Venezuelan foreign minister since diplomatic normalization in 1965.

Further on Remains of Alleged Infiltrator

SK0710100593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0919 GMT
7 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 7 (YONHAP)—The remains of a young man in diving kit which were discovered off Chumunjin along the east coast on last Monday, were found on Thursday to be those of a North Korean Army infiltrator.

The Defense Ministry reported that the body was in the South Korean Army's old uniform and that a total of 91 pieces of items in 37 kinds were retrieved from the remains. They included a pistol, a hand-grenade and an air (oxygen) tube.

"Since the area where the body was sighted was near the area of the North Korean Army 1st Corps, it appears the dead belonged to a reconnaissance team of the reconnaissance battalion of the 1st Corps," a ministry official said.

As the items discovered included no supplies needed for long-term operations, the man was apparently on a short-term duty to check the South Korean Army's forward positions, he said.

O Myon-su, chief of counter-infiltration intelligence division of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said, "the supplies the dead infiltrator carried indicates that he died accidentally while infiltrating the South along with two fellow intruders."

He said the two others must have either returned to the North or drowned. "We developed the film of the camera the dead man had, but nothing appeared on it," O said.

The South told the North of its willingness to return the remains to the North. But, North Korea has refused to accept the body on the ground that there was no way to determine his identity.

The remains were discovered at 2:35 P.M. Oct. 4 in the sea 500 meters off Yongjin-ri, Yongok-myon, Kangwon Province by a fishery guidance vessel.

North-South Trade Increases by 6.6 Percent

SK0710022093 Seoul *THE KOREA HERALD* in English 7 Oct 93 p 8

[Text] Trade between South and North Korea amounted to \$16.1 million in September, up 6.6 percent from the \$15.1 million recorded a year earlier, the Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Energy said yesterday.

Inter-Korean trade during the first nine months of the year, accordingly, came to \$150.8 million, representing a 11.6 percent drop from the same 1992 span.

In September alone, South Korea exported \$809,000 worth of goods, mostly clothes, edible oil, and sewing machines to the North, while importing \$15.3 million worth of commodities, including agro-fishery products and gold ingots.

Ministry officials attributed the sluggish inter-Korean trade mainly to the deterioration of foreign currency in the North and its controversial nuclear issues.

Inter-Korean trade in agricultural, forestry and marine products declined in the first half of the year as inter-Korean relations worsened because of the North Korean nuclear problem, according to government data released Monday [4 October].

The data, presented by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries for parliamentary inspection of state affairs, shows that South Korea bought \$6,678,000 of these products from the North in January-June this year. The figure is 43 percent of the \$15.52 million for the whole of 1992.

South Korean purchases of agricultural, forestry and marine products from North Korea were \$5,323,000 in 1990, \$7,687,000 in 1991 and \$15.52 million last year.

Walnuts topped the list with \$2,232,000 worth of them bought from the North, followed by raw materials for herb medicine with \$1,825,000, bracken with \$818,000 and dried acorns with \$574,000.

Small amounts of leaf tobacco, mung beans, lilies and frozen pollacks were also purchased.

Meanwhile, North Korea bought \$6,000 of laver from the South in the first half of this year among agricultural, forestry and fisheries products. Pyongyang bought \$1,607,000 of rice from Seoul in 1991 and \$70,000 of garlic last year.

* Local Democratic Party Chapters in Disarray

932C0211A Seoul *MAL* in Korean Aug 93 pp 38-43

[By reporter An Yong-pae]

[Text] "No details on the use of general-election campaign contributions are coming to light. Worse yet, they have been misappropriated to cover car expenses for representatives. Some are living in Seoul and not managing their districts at all."

"As an aftereffect of the general election, the chairman is unable to manage the local chapter and district. The chairman is the subject of gossip, being unable to handle debts due to immoderate use of funds during the general election."

"Particulars on the appointment of a chief organizer are murky, there is a constant lack of phone communications with the local chapter and there is almost no subordinate organization."

"There is a controversy arising concerning the local-chapter chairman's character because he lives in an area other than his district and because of the content of his usual statements."

"There is no female clerk at the local district; a friend always looks after the office and answers phone calls."

Last July before the general election, the Democratic Party [DP] carried out an internal inspection of its local chapters. At present, this is its most recent inspection. The above statements are part of the inspection results concerning a problematic 39 local chapters out of a total 237. Of these, the most often seen problems were "The party is feeble because of weak subordinate organizations and the chairman too has little enthusiasm for or sincerity about the elections," "The local chapter is operated with only one female clerk to answer the phone," etc. What is more, "There are many complaints surrounding the use of general-election campaign funds (purchasing a Sonata [luxury car] after the election)," etc., there is more than a little controversy surrounding general-election campaign contributions.

Looking at the inspection results, there appeared a large number of chairmen who are living outside their districts as well as a large number of places without basic work

space or full-time workers. Following this, there were nearly 20 local chapters indicated as places whose chairman needed to be replaced. Almost none of these local-chapter chairmen have actually been replaced by the central party's Special Committee for Organizational Reinforcement [Chojik Kanghwa Tukwi]. This is because "dividing the spoils" between party factions came first. Afterwards, the DP was defeated in the presidential election and, following Kim Tae-chung's retirement from politics, a new leadership was formed in the party's national convention and the DP has been defending its position as the "sole opposition party" standing against the ruling party. It also set up the goal of gaining victory at all costs in the 1997 presidential election.

Has the DP thus taken on the form of an authorized [as published] political party? Rather, is it taking on that form? The answer to this is, "not yet." There are more than a few things requiring examination here. However, one thing is clear: the majority opinion is that this is unlikely given the DP's present organizational strength. The "self-diagnosis" of one DP official:

"Korean politics are at a point in time demanding a great transformation of thought. It would not be incorrect to say that, previously, the democracy-versus-antidemocracy composition of the political world controlled almost everything. It is not an exaggeration to say that the opposition parties' only election plan was to cry for the overthrow of the military dictatorship and stir up a wind on the campaign trail; this was also effective. However, society is gradually becoming pluralistic and public awareness has changed a good deal with the inauguration of the Kim Yong-sam administration. We can no longer publicize as though the nation will be ruined if the ruling party wins, like some 'eschatologist,' every time there is an election. Beginning with ourselves, we must look back on the past and find a new "method of coexistence." We must strengthen the influence of the opposition party itself. To do this, there must first be a democratization of party operation and a renovation of local chapter organization."

Since the birth of the Kim Yong-sam administration, DP resolution has narrowed. Furthermore, it is the general assessment both inside and outside the party that the condition of the local chapters has grown worse than before. Things are different in and out of the National Assembly. The positions individuals are placed in are as different as night and day. The local chapters of active members of the National Assembly are seldom a problem. This is because, no matter how poorly done, they do at least a minimum of management. Beginning with financial problems, which ten out of ten chairmen point to as the biggest stumbling block of local chapter operations, the "class" of problems differs between active lawmakers and those outside the National Assembly.

A rough estimate of the money provided to a member of the National Assembly every month, including commercial annual allowance, wages for five secretaries, telephone, stamps, office supplies, etc., would be over 15 some million won [W]. Furthermore, the size of the "political funds" coming in through various channels is decided the moment a lawmaker wins an election. For a politician outside the National Assembly, it would be a good idea to give up any hopes for these funds.

The weak material condition of the local chapters is clearly seen in the genre painting of the party national convention. There is not one candidate for party president who does not promise to greatly expand support for the local chapters without active lawmakers. One candidate went so far as to say he would make sure that the core party members of local chapters could receive medical-insurance benefits, making a promise completely removed from reality. It appears that the problem of financial support for local chapters, always coming up as one of the most urgent tasks, will be relieved at least a little beginning in June, following the central party's decision to provide W1 million to each of the local chapters. However, this is not a fundamental solution, according to public opinion. How much of an expense, then, will the operation of local chapters require?

"W450 thousand for renting a 40-pyong [1 pyong = 3.954 square yards] office (W20 million security deposit), W450 thousand for a female clerk's wages, W200 thousand for an assistant director general's activity expenses, W200 thousand for taxes, W1 million for entertainment and other expenses, etc., even though we carry on only minimal activities, it requires over W2.5 million per month." (A local chapter chairman from the Yongnam region)

"W1 million for office rental (W20 million security deposit), W2 million for the executive office director, female clerk and general-affairs department chief's wages, and if we combine this with organizational-activity expenses for the production of regional public relations materials, various kinds of gatherings, support functions, etc., W5 million is basic. Including expenses for congratulations and condolences, if we want to operate this correctly it will easily exceed W10 million." (A local chapter chairman from Seoul)

There will be variations in degree depending on the region, content and mode of the activity, but, in reality, it is not an easy thing for opposition chairmen to arrange for normal (?) [as published] local-chapter operation expenses. "There are a lot of chairmen without any particular job, so, if he is not a man of means, what way does he have to arrange for sufficient operating expenses? They have no choice but to busy themselves chasing around after factional bosses to get noticed and also to get money," according to the sad "monologue" of one chairman.

It is no exaggeration to say that this is the background mass producing "professional" local chapter chairmen.

In connection with this, it is the prevailing assessment both in and out of the party that "the poorer the chapter activities of a chairman are, the more fervent he is in factional activities." Although unreliable in his activities, he maintains his position by being totally loyal to a boss. On the other hand, the boss firmly secures the "votes" controlled by this sort of chairman. In one local chapter, "business" was carried on with the votes of 20 representatives participating in the party national conference.

Concerning this, one chairman confessed, "In our district alone there were more chairmen who directly appointed representatives themselves or even mobilized their friends or wives," and speaking of himself, and he does not particularly try, "The money I get for personal use amounts to about W5 million." "In the case of some weak local chapters, they couldn't even fill the required number of representatives for the reorganization meeting opening before the party national conference." That this did not stir up any other real problems in spite of the fact that it is absolutely inexcusable is possible only as an extension of this composition, insist some party circles.

At present the DP has had incidents in 18 local chapters, the position of chairman vacant in five (one in Kyonggi Province, one in Taejon, one in South Chungchong Province, two in North Chungchong Province), incidence of chairmen withdrawing from the party and pending chief-organizer appointments in 13 (two in Kyonggi Province, three in Kangwon, one in South Chungchong Province, two in Pusan, three in South Kyongsang Province, one in North Kyongsang Province, and one in North Cholla Province). There have also been cases in which a chairman resigned criticizing the irresponsibility of a leadership only concerned with challenging for the position of party president, but, regardless, it is a fact that there is a high number of incidents occurring in the DP's weak districts. However, it is generally pointed out that substantive "troubles" are a greater problem than formally problematic local chapters.

"For the constitution of the party to be improved and for normal local-chapter activities to be possible, about one third of the chapter chairmen not active in the National Assembly must be replaced," insists one local-chapter chairman who is a member of the Democratic Reform Political Assembly [Minju Kaehyok Chongchi Moim]. Considering aspects of overall temperament such as ability, sincerity and morality, large-scale "wet plowing" [i.e. the replacement of personnel] is unavoidable. In connection with this, one party source states, "Probably not even half the local chapters properly distribute to district voters the several thousand party bulletins sent down to them during normal times other than elections." He laments that it is so bad, he cannot even remember every receiving a party bulletin during the last few years in the district where he lives.

Overcoming local deviation is another important problem. The level of Seoul and Capital-area local chapters is generally assessed to be average. The weakest are the Yongnam and Kangwon Province regions. In South Kyongsang Province, of the three thousand party members of one local chapter said to be comparatively well managed, only seven hundred some members are reported to have correctly submitted their party-entrance applications (Of course, in other regions too, party-member "popping" [exaggeration] has become general practice). Some also insist that, with the circumstances of the 14th presidential election, areas such as the Yongnam region were unable to digest even one third of the public relations material sent down from the central party.

These conditions were clearly seen in the Yechon special election also. One party official dispatched to support the campaign revealed, "When I first went down there, only about half of the up and myon [administrative units] organizers had been appointed even though it was just before the election-announcement day," and, "It felt just like I was campaigning alone." The local chapter was so weak that even the most fundamental organizers could not be appointed.

However, the fact that the party got more votes than expected shows us one important truth. Although there were problems with the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] candidate's ability to get votes, candidate An Hui-dae's publicity played a big part in this region's change of mood. Even up through to presidential elections, people would not take public-relations material given to them, saying it was "Kim Tae-chung's party." Now, most accept it without any reluctance and examine its contents with interest. What is more, if talk about former representative Kim Tae-chung comes up, one can witness the peculiar phenomenon of people clapping loudly. This is the extent to which regional resentment has grown mild.

Another example of how even a weak local chapter can be effective is the Myongju-Yangyang special election. The unique mood of the Yongdong region, in which the slogan "Let's not eat imported potatoes" was effective, played a part, but no one within the party disagrees with the assessment that it was the activity of Chairman Choi Uk-chol which was the main cause of victory. There was no place he did not go, traveling to every corner of the district which has a north-to-south length of 128 km. According to the results of an investigation by the central party, he carried on the most exemplary local-chapter activities in Kangwon Province, such as having people who normally helped with elections actively participate in central-party functions, etc., so that they would take interest in the party in other than election times.

The example of the Nonsan chapter is similar. It received a "Class-A" rating in the 1992 central-party inspection for its amicable relations with local organizations, etc. Even though this district is part of Chungchong Province, in the last presidential election, with the

exception of the Honam region, it recorded the highest number of votes for the DP in the nation.

Then, what about the Honam region, the DP's "home garden"? To begin with the conclusion: "Things must not continue this way." They say the "DP is the ruling party of the Honam region." The local chapters stand on a base of completely controlled basic and greater-regional assemblies. Thus, it cannot be compared with other regions. In finances and personnel, it is the most plentiful. However, this goes so far that it is said that if one attaches a DP flag to a stick, all one has to do is plant it in the ground to get elected. So, the political life of a chairman is dependent on whether he wins a party nomination. Thus, they naturally had no interest in chapter activities, but concentrated on getting their pictures taken with former party-president Kim Tae-chung. By doing this, they were able to maintain good conditions undreamed of in other regions, lament party sources.

This is being forcibly changed since the presidential election. This is because dissatisfaction with the character of DP representatives and the operation of local chapters has grown noticeably. As they experienced a "feeling of crisis," members of the National Assembly began to be concerned with the management of local chapters. "They're showing diligence. For example, representatives who used to come down to their districts about once a month, now come down once a week," according to one party official of this region. "In the case of one Kwangju district representative who normally thought little of the opposition, since the presidential election, he is working on ways to save himself, such as actively pursuing improved relations with opposition organizations having considerable influence in this region," according to another source.

As was confirmed through the process of the last presidential election, the greatest problem to be overcome by the DP is the limitation of being a "regional party." Anyone visiting a local chapter can sense this strongly. "If one looks at where party members are from, the ratio of Honam to non-Honam people is about 50-50. Of these, the percentage of those core members fervent in chapter activities who are from the Honam region jumps to 80 percent," explains one chapter-secretariate chief.

Party executive positions are even more controlled by Honam people. It is the common experience of most people connected to the local chapters that, although it is not this way in the personnel-selection process, it becomes so in the course of managing the chapter. Summarizing their experience, the process is as follows.

First of all, many of the most active party members with relatively high levels of political awareness are from the Honam region. During elections, they display the greatest ability to mobilize "votes" through the solidarity of such groups as the Honam Friends Association [Honam Hyanguhwe]. Thus, in the party-executive selections following an election, because a mix of a person's

merits and influence is considered, they naturally end up occupying a regular share of the positions. However, the problem is not that they themselves are exclusivist. It is that an emotional consensus is formed, according to which there is something of a contrast between Honam and non-Honam people. Hence, the core structure gradually comes to be made up of Honam people and non-Honam people drop out.

There is nothing intentional about this. Even so, it cannot help but play an important part in deciding the "color" of the DP. During the election process, this has a negative influence on votes. It isolates the DP candidate from non-Honam voters. This structural problem cannot be solved in one stroke by human intervention. From various angles, however, efforts at drastic reform are urgently needed at the local-chapter level. In the case of chapter "X," for example, although the vast majority of its internal personnel are from the Honam region, party executives are appointed based on the composition of the voting population. It is still unknown how the results will turn out. Although this can be criticized as too artificial, we can find evidence in it that they are really trying as best they can.

The democratization of central-party and local-chapter operations is also an important task. Party officials point out that the present local-chapter system is being operated completely backwards. "A chairman who falls from above by parachute nomination manages the organization with his own money for his reelection. Party officials come to take care not to offend him and work solely for his reelection. The local chapter ultimately becomes a private organization. How can party members become master in this kind of structure," explains one local-chapter source. This was also clearly seen last May, when Sodaemun-ul chapter chairman Rep. Im Chun-won withdrew from the party. He took all the chapter's organizational papers with him when he left. The only thing he left to the policy committee was a list of the names of organization members.

Kangso-gap chapter chairman Rep. Pak Kye-dong, who became the topic of conversation after being elected chairman through competitive selection in a general meeting of representatives, gives the following answer on the issue of local-chapter democratization: "Competitive selection of chairmen is still on 'experiment' at the local-chapter level. It requires a systematic supplement which will not be misused. There are normally about a hundred some chapter representatives. However, if party nomination guarantees election, as in the Honam region, the investment value of these hundred-some men becomes enormous. The improvement of procedural regulations hindering extreme corruption, such as a system of public-election management, must come first. However, at the present juncture, I see no need to fear the attempt itself."

There have been dissenting voices from the competitive-selection process, but, in the case of the Kangso-gap chapter, they have been preparing democratization plans

for about two years. First of all, seven thousand party members were changed into a group of six hundred core party members who completed basic training and pay a thousand-won membership fee each month. Excluding appointed positions such as secretariat chief and general-affairs department chief, the majority of chapter executives were chosen through competition. However, the level of political training is still insufficient for the competitive selection of chairmen, according to knowledgeable sources. That is how difficult the process is. The number of chapters challenging this "wall" is increasing, however. South Kyonggi Province, Changwon-ul chapter chairman Song Chong-dae, chosen through competitive selection last February, frankly described what his feelings were at the time:

"Even though I was the only candidate, the chapter was in a festive mood just because it was a competitive selection. This was a meaningful event and a source of strength for future activity."

If the DP would be born again in keeping with social change, the central-party must not be the only policy-making center. The local chapter too must become a center for policy making. Also, it must progress from elitist politics to populist politics. That this change requires a great transformation of thought is the opinion consistently held by reformist figures within the party. External Cooperation Committee vice chairman Pak Yong-su, who has managed opposition organizations for over 30 years, insists, "We must no longer follow the organizational forms passed down to us from the fifties: tong, myon organizer - tong, ri organizer - team organizer. We must now subdivide and specialize organizational forms to fit the characteristics of each region: city, quasi-city, farming village, secluded area, new city, etc."

The Songbuk-gap chapter, with Rep. Yi Chol as its chairman, is dividing its chapter organization in keeping with this by area and class, and is planning organizational operations befitting this. For example, even in 1987 there was only one apartment complex in this district, but it has now grown to seven. The number of condominium-style houses and villas has grown from three to 23. In these areas, housing problems have little meaning; people are interested in traffic and environmental problems. On the other hand, in mountain communities, housing problems are of the utmost concern. Thus, the local chapters must reflect the voices of residents in keeping with the variations in their lifestyles.

The situation in the farming village is the same. Concrete worries about the realities of life must be reflected in the organization, for example, managing the organization based on crops raised. They must become organizations able to save the farming village. In connection with this, chairman Shin On-gwan of the North Chungchong Province, Chongwon chapter held events, such as policy-discussion meetings with cattle and tobacco-producing farmers, and got a good response from area residents.

On the other hand, those arguing for the "abolition of local chapters" have appeared in some political circles. Given the present political structure, however, the position that the time is not yet right for this carries weight. It is generally pointed out that until chapter functions are normalized and a "normal" structure which actually supports the central party with political funds is firmly in place, national and central party-level support for local chapters will have to be expanded. However, tasks have accumulated which urgently require attention at the local-chapter level even before the relevant laws and systems are introduced. One example of this is the fact that even while the party raises the call for political participation by women during elections, women party executives in most local chapters are actually only women's-affairs department heads.

In connection with this, Rep. Pak Kye-dong points out, "First of all, the local chapters must become more than groups of election professionals." "A considerable number of core party members are half unemployed. The chairman must rid himself of the 'bad name' of being partially responsible for their livelihood," adds the chairman of another chapter. There is also the warning of one chapter-secretariat chief, "Expenses for congratulations and condolences must be included in 'essential expenses' and be spent first. This crippled structure incapable of official activities must not be allowed to continue." The future of the DP is now totally dependent on its members' choices; and these will be decided by the strength of their will.

*** President's Faction Facing Challenges**

932C0207A Seoul *MAL* in Korean Aug 93 pp 24-28

[By reporter Yi Pyong-son]

[Text] On the morning of 10 July, Cho Yong-chik, deputy spokesman of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], who is close to Chairman Kim Chong-pil [KCP], unexpectedly distributed a celluloid board—for placing under writing paper—to each reporter present. Printed on it were quotes from "Wisdom of Life" contained in CHABBOJANGGYONG, a sutra said to be a collection of high Buddhist priests' words.

The quotes began with: "Do not be arrogant in prosperity and do not cower in adversity. Whatever you hear, do not act rashly but think deeply and find out if it is true; once you find all the truth, act boldly."

The epigrams continue: "Lower yourself like grass flat on the ground." "Use caution when things turn in your favor." "Control your anger from bursting." Thus, KCP, who loves a subtle, metaphorical expression to describe his position on political issues, that day attempted a dialogue with reporters through CHABBOJANGGYONG. Cho, distributing the material, explained that "KCP asked me to bring this to you, 'young reporters,' for sure."

What was it that KCP wanted to tell young reporters through it? It may have been, presumably, that "you, young reporters, have not yet seen much of life but are already wielding your pen so recklessly." Through the celluloid board, it seems, he was also protesting the fact that as such, those young reporters are cutting down the achievements of his generation so ruthlessly—and distorting his true motives, too.

KCP has been visibly unhappy with media since his comments to the press on 29 June concerning old paintings and calligraphic works he owns or owned in the past created a stir against his expectation.

In a spontaneous remark to reporters on that day, he asserted that reports of paintings in his possession, including Renoir's *Golden Calf*, are vastly exaggerated. He also disclosed how the new military regime in 1980 accused him of property amassed by illegal means and deprived him of valuable objects of art, including Tae-wongun's *Orchid Screen*, calligraphic works by Kim Ok-kyun, and Kim Un-ho's black-and-white painting depicting the four nobles—apricot flower, orchid, chrysanthemum and bamboo. He even hinted that he knows where those items are now. "That day, soldiers stormed my house at dawn, grabbed paintings and calligraphic works to share among themselves." "I don't think they even knew what those paintings and calligraphic works meant," he added, hinting obliquely at the outrageousness and ignorance of the new military regime.

It seems that the KCP 29 June press interview had two aims. The first one was to portray him as a victim of the new military regime in 1980 and thus to dodge the bullet of the opposition currently demanding resignation of ex-leaders of the 16 May [1961] military coup. The other aim was to head off the anticipated shock from the public disclosure of property being made by high officials in September, which in his case will include those highly valuable paintings and calligraphic works.

Against his will, however, KCP's remarks created a stir that had been totally unexpected; the public's concern was focused on how the illegally-amassed property ended up in the hands of the new military regime's leaders instead of being duly returned to state custody. The Democratic Party [DP] questioned the morality of the 16 May coup leaders whose conduct, it contended, was the same as that of the 1980 new military regime. It demanded that KCP "disclose how he obtained such highly valuable objects of art in the first place." The controversy escalated to mud-slinging between the "military leadership" that led the 1961 coup and the "new military leadership" that led the 12 December [1979] coup.

Pressed by reporters to "reveal the names of 'new military leadership' figures who currently own those objects of art," KCP's aides looked embarrassed. KCP himself said that "I said it not because I am interested in regaining those things," then shut his mouth. He opened his mouth again a week later. On 6 July, when an

extraordinary parliamentary session was in progress, KCP again met reporters in his National Assembly office. He began, in the usual *Zen mondo* style: "The wind of yesterday was brought on by people like me. Today's wind is as you see it. Tomorrow it will be a different wind again." "We should not look back at yesterday with today's eye," he said, hinting at his unhappiness with recent media reports. In reference to the current MBC-TV drama series "Third Republic," he said that "my feeling was that there should have been a more thoroughgoing historical research to back it up."

Noteworthy of KCP's conduct these days is that he has begun stating his views and position positively and quite frequently, whether in a *Zen mondo* fashion or another metaphorical style.

A politician familiar with the physiology of power, KCP had entrenched himself in his office in a corner of the DP headquarters in Youido while the reform storm ripped through the country in the first months of the new government, living from day to day holding his breath. The biggest thing he did then was an ambiguous statement about himself at a party executive committee session one day in April. Quoting from an ancient Chinese sage, he said: "If people called me a bull, I must have acted like a bull. If they called me a horse, I must have behaved like a horse. But, as far as I am concerned, I have no alternative but to live on as a human being."

At the time, KCP was nothing more than a front put up by President Kim Yong-sam [KYS] in a painful step to prevent another "political betrayal." As soon as he took office, KYS called a meeting of the DLP Central Standing Committee to revise the party constitution, changing the title of "daepyo wiwon" [representative committee member] to "daepyo" [representative or chairman] and eliminating the clause providing for the term of the "daepyo." The action was seen as reflecting KYS's view that KCP could be ousted at any time.

KCP's turnaround from the "life on borrowed time" came with the defeat of a veteran DP adviser, Kim Myong-yun, in the 11 June Myongju-Yangyang by-election. Although the outcome stunned DLP leaders, the KCP camp was visibly relaxed and relieved. An aide close to KCP slipped a piece of paper to reporters in which he had written "Truth wins out in the long run."

Needless to say, it was KYS' strategic move involving the next-term DLP leadership that he tried to bring Kim Myong-yun into the National Assembly. The election of the DP adviser, if realized, could have been effective in securing a "reserve" to replace KCP at any time and, as a result, weakening the position of the KCP-led conservatives in the party, although KYS may have been unable to make him DLP chairman right away.

However, the by-election defeat dealt a serious setback to KYS' DLP reorganization plan. On the other hand, it had the effect of relatively enhancing KCP's status. KCP knows very well that KYS cannot oust him easily any

more. Composure and confidence has been in evidence in KCP's conduct since then.

Meanwhile, the strengthening of KCP's position predicts that the conservative voice in the DLP—led by the former Democratic Justice Party [DJP] and New Democratic Republican Party [NDRP] factions—will generally grow stronger. The signs are there already. Evidently, they have been greatly encouraged, especially, by a shift of social climate toward conservatism triggered by the death of a policeman during student demonstrations and the escalation of labor-management disputes.

An expanded DLP executives meeting in mid-June, held immediately after the death of Police Officer Kim Chun-to, produced a rare scene in which First State Minister Kim Tok-yong, regarded as one of the real powers in the KYS government, was attacked on both sides by lawmakers of the DJP and NDRP factions.

First, So Chong-hwa, chairman of the National Assembly Home Affairs Committee, reported that "currently, the number of pro-North, underground-communication activists is estimated at 40,000, but security authorities have no up-to-date information on them." This prompted Rep. So Su-chong, ex-director of the secretariat of the Agency for National Security Planning, to make a frontal attack on the government policy of accommodating the reformist camp's reunification plan. Rep. So said: "I understand that the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan is on the National Unification Board advisory committee. Any move that will give him and the like chances to 'lord it over' should be stopped by all means."

At that point, KCP asked First State Minister Kim, "Is it true that the Rev. Mun is serving as an advisor?" The minister made an apologetic response, saying: "It is true that the minister of the National Unification Board is hearing opinions of all segments of society, ranging from the extreme left to the extreme right, but I do not know whether or not the Rev. Mun is on the advisory committee."

Minister of the National Unification Board Han Wan-sang took the trouble of phoning DLP Spokesman Kang Chae-sop next day to explain that "I indeed studied a plan once to seek services of the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and other personalities who visited North Korea, as advisers, but there were problems and the plan was dropped a month ago." The episode clearly reflects a change in the power dynamics within the ruling camp.

Along with Deputy Prime Minister Han Wan-sang, Labor Minister Yi In-se is also a target of the conservative offensive in the DLP.

Labor Minister Yi, while pressing with a policy of partial wage payment for striking workers for the duration of the strike, met with strong opposition from the conservatives in the party led by legislators on the Labor Committee. A former judge, Yi maintained that it is natural that his ministry's administrative guidelines should be adjusted by Supreme Court precedents. But, whatever

his belief, he had to bow to the pressure of the mounting labor disputes and the conservative demand for priority to an economic recovery. Moreover, the development seems to have also frustrated his zeal for purging the labor law of pernicious provisions such as the ban on intervention by a third party and on plural unions.

At a National Assembly Labor Committee session on 7 July, Rep. Sin Kye-ryun asked the minister of labor: "In a statement concerning the Hyundai labor disputes, you said that you will 'take a resolute action against a third-party intervention.' Does that mean that you have changed your position that the third-party clause should be repealed?" Minister Yi responded: "My legislative position that the industrial peace can be maintained without such outdated provisions as the third-party clause, and the question of applying that provision which is still in effect to a specific situation requiring its application are two different matters." His logic was more or less contradictory.

Labor Minister Yi's dilemmas were obvious from the behavior of DLP members on the Labor Committee that day. To a DLP proposal for sending an Assembly-level fact-finding team to the Ulsan dispute site, Rep. Pak Kun-ho said that "it constitutes a third-party intervention ..." unveiling his ignorance. Meanwhile, Rep. Yi Chong-kun busied himself attacking the standing committee chairman, a DP member, denouncing a recent foreign tour of opposition legislators as a junket. And there was Rep. Choe Sang-yong, an ex-Federation of Labor official, showing no interest in defending the interests of workers. One can imagine the extent of vexations the labor minister is likely to be subjected to at party-government consultations on labor issues.

Basically, the problem is that the strength of KYS' RDP [former Reunification Democratic Party] faction is absolutely short of keeping the conservatives, namely, the DJP and NDRP factions, from reasserting themselves.

Presently, of the 171 DLP members in the National Assembly, those regarded as belonging to the RDP faction number approximately 25 at most. When it comes to RDP faction members elected for many terms and, at the same time, having administrative abilities to meet the two most important conditions to fill party executive posts, they can be counted on the fingers. Consequently, the party workload is always concentrated on the handful of officials including Paek Nam-chi, director of the Planning and Coordination Division, and Kang Sam-chae, director of the Second Policy Coordination Division. It is feared that there will be no qualified "players" to fill their places should there be any "troubles" with them.

All non-economic policies put out by the DLP come through the hands of Director Kang Sam-chae. He is also a secretary of the DLP Special Committee on Social Reforms, a working-level body created by the DLP to

work on reform legislation. Moreover, it is his job to brief reporters of DLP legislative plans each time they are drawn.

At the beginning, Kang briefed reporters daily of the committee work for that day as he had promised. The regular briefing, however, was discontinued in late June. It was because of a little drama of reform plans which he had disclosed at earlier briefings—dealing with military reserve system improvement and change of a war memorial hall project into a national museum project—having been reversed overnight.

The reversal was of course caused by the fact that the plans were made public prematurely before being put to sufficient party-government and inter-ministry coordinations. But the basic problem was that Director Kang was so overloaded with work that he could not simply be a hundred percent familiar with all specifics of what he puts out to reporters. Although he is young and zealous, the workload on him is, by all indications, too much. On 17 June, he finally quit as member of the National Assembly Special Committee for Deliberations on Political Laws, a contact point between the ruling and opposition parties on reform legislation. His schedule was just too busy. He fell ill from overwork and had to stay home a few times recently. After the trouble with the military reserve system improvement plan, he revealed his frustration by saying that "I feel like quitting so many times daily. I have to be a hundred percent careful with everything going on; otherwise, things go awry as it just did."

Also, repeated slips of the tongue by DLP Secretary General Hwang Myong-su, who was promoted to the post after Choe Hyong-u resigned, have added to the burden on leaders of the reform program. Plans put out by Hwang on the basis of his own ideas since he took office frequently backfired. As a result, the secretary general looks dispirited these days.

On 17 June, Hwang disclosed his private plan to "push for a ban on the use of private cars by public officials to and from work," which triggered criticism in the DLP as an "absurd idea." "I only aired my opinion," he responded, taking back the irresponsible remark. Earlier, in early May when he said that he would create a "pro-reform vanguard organization," he had to suffer the consequence of the slip because of the inappropriate term used.

The series of blunders made by the RDP faction have broadened the opportunities for the DJP and NDRP factions to try their hands in party management, breathing a sense of self-confidence into them.

Addressing a Chongwadae dinner for DLP city and provincial chairmen on 29 June, KYS stated that he will "promote anyone who works for the country with everything he has and who exerts his utmost." The remark created a stir in the DLP, spawning hasty speculations

that the president—who had persisted, almost stubbornly, in having figures of the RDP faction lead the party—may have changed his policy.

Thus, less than a month after he made clear at a press conference marking his 100th day in office his plan for a drastically severer screening of candidates for party endorsements in the coming 15th general election, KYS said something of a totally different nuance. Commenting, a leading lawmaker of the DJP faction said that "the president, it seems, finally began to look straight at realities."

Needless to say, KYS may have said it as a form to show his appreciation of the efforts being made party executives. Nevertheless, there is no denying that the 29 June remark reflected a certain change in KYS' presidential perspective. Adviser Kim Myong-yun's election defeat underscored the fact that the president's popularity rate alone—which has skyrocketed over 90%—does not mean that a president's man can win the election in any district simply by "staking off" the territory. Meanwhile, Rep. Pan Hyong-sik, elected in the Yechon District, North Kyongsang, made a show of himself by "physically blocking" an interpellation by DP Rep. Yi Pu-yong at the first National Assembly plenary session he attended, demonstrating that Yechon was another case of "substandard" party endorsement. The two incidents created a climate making it difficult for KYS to demand "party endorsements focused on RDP-faction candidates." They also point to the fundamental limits the RDP faction has as an outgrowth of an opposition party in its capability of recruiting talents.

A look at developments in the candidate endorsement process for the Chunchon by-election, scheduled for 10 August, makes the picture even clearer. If it had been under the former regimes, there would have been no problem of the endorsement going to Yi Sang-yong, director of the Institute of National Land Development, considering his brilliant record including service as a former governor of Kangwon Province. However, KYS persistently turned down the DLP endorsement plan for Yi Sang-yong, presented to him three times altogether. He then told party Secretary General Hwang to "look for a more fresh, reform-oriented figure."

Thus came the names of Pak Yong-su, a Kangwon University professor in his forties, and Yu Chi-han, a lawyer in his thirties, as strong candidate at one time or another. But their candidacy did not materialize because they either refused to become a candidate or ran into opposition from party officials. After all, the DLP, pressed by the time limit, settled on Yu Chong-su, a person with a not so clear-cut record, which includes services as a civil servant and managing director of the Amateur Wrestling Association of Kangwon Province. He worked as chief of the secretariat of the Chunchon district DLP chapter for 10 years from 1981. Currently, he has several of the sort of titles common among those orbiting around the political sphere, such as chief of the secretariat of the provincial athletic association, a

member of the board of directors of the provincial veterans association, and a permanent director of the Kangwon University general alumni association.

The endorsement process in the Chunchon by-election makes one feel the intensity of rivalry on the part of KYS. He was determined not to give the endorsement to Yi Sang-yong, who was a natural candidate in the view of the DJP and NDRP factions. However, if the candidate thus picked by KYS through all that process is found to have nothing better than Yi Sang-yong in terms of freshness and the reform image and, moreover, be incomparably inferior in statesmanship, his rivalry will unavoidably be seen as reckless.

Lawmakers of the DJP and NDRP factions and DLP district chapter chairmen may very well have seen the limits of what KYS ambitiously put out as his screening plan for candidate endorsement. They seem to have gained the confidence that if they do what they should do in the management of their own districts, KYS can hardly do anything about them.

Another factor making the DJP and NDRP faction leaders' steps even springier is the fact that the investigations into corruption and irregularity cases by the audit and inspection authorities of the KYS government have slowed down. The tumultuous investigations launched in the first months of the new government have come to a pause for the present, leaving the ill fame of "selective investigation" or "targeted probe." Audit and inspection officials could not even get inquiries started on cases involving former key officials who became the focus of suspicion among the public. An interested source describes the atmosphere among lawmakers of the DJP faction these days as "demonstrating their feelings that the KYS audit and inspection drive was nothing much after all."

KYS, perhaps conscious of the climate like this, said in his statement marking the election of subcommittee chairmen of the DLP Central Standing Committee on 28 June that "we have no alternative but to continue reform." "Full-scale reforms are yet to come," he emphasized. An assemblyman close to him explained that the president was making "a pledge to himself."

The president's latest "pledge" to himself was also unveiled during the uproar over a DLP Bulletin scrapping incident and an incident in which a draft press release containing a presidential remark prepared for a Chongwadae dinner with top leaders of conglomerates was taken back.

KYS was enraged over a report in the DLP Bulletin dated 25 June quoting him as saying in an interview that "now the reform from the upper will shift to that from the lower, the big reform to small ones, and the reform by governmental power to reform of life, in a gradual directional change and complementary adjustment." Saying that "the substance of the report threatens to fog up the intent for reform," the president ordered the

edition discarded entirely. Thus, the newly printed edition came, under the headline "Full-Scale Reform Yet To Come."

Meanwhile, with regard to a press release drafted by the Chongwadae office of economic secretaries in preparation for a scheduled dinner with top leaders of conglomerates, a passage in a speech prepared for KYS to deliver—that "I will not adopt any shocking or high-handed policies that might cause a downturn of business activity"—became a problem. At heart, the president must have thought that "there is no reason why I should say things like that to conglomerates only."

Despite such pledges on the part of KYS, there are unmistakable signs that the reform campaign is rapidly backpedaling these days. Lawmakers of the DP faction leading the campaign are overwhelmed by the task, while those of the DJP and NDRP factions led by KCP are slowly raising their head.

The reforms being pushed by the KYS regime will not come to completion before being given a finishing touch with a political reform, because no matter how good a reform might be now, it would be of no avail should it be canceled later. Therefore, the reform of the DLP itself constitutes a barometer of the tenacity and thoroughness of the regime's reform drive. The reality, however, is that we see only backpedaling and drifting continuing and no alternative plans.

* Navy Seeks Aircraft Carrier

932C0210A Seoul *WOLGAN CHOSON* in Korean
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[By Rear Admiral Kang Yong-o]

[Excepts] The anticorruption drive which began with the inauguration of Kim Yong-sam's civilian government caused the arrest of a former Navy chief of staff, the retirement of the present Navy chief of staff, and the discharge of all three-star admirals and some admirals involved in irregularities. Rear Admiral Kim Hong-nyol, soon to be transferred to the reserves, was suddenly promoted to vice admiral, making a three-star admiral the Navy chief of staff, a personnel action defying the imagination.

In the sense that injustice and corruption must be rooted out, these personnel management measures are clearly being highly evaluated. However, in view of the need to prepare a new naval force for a united Korea, it does give reasons to be concerned.

For the last 30 years, the Korean Navy has carried out a "continental naval strategy" subordinate to ground-force strategy. This was done under former-Army presidents who considered the war-fighting capacity of ground forces to be most important. Welcoming a system with a civilian president, the Korean Navy has now arrived at a very important juncture: a time to adopt a "maritime naval strategy" and to prepare for the coming Pacific Era

of a united Korea. As yet, however, it has been unable to bring itself out of the tremendous shock of the anticorruption campaign.

Naval strategy is generally divided into "maritime naval strategy" and "continental naval strategy." Continental naval strategy is subordinate to ground-forces strategy: it has "coastal defense" and "sea denial" emphasizing the destruction of sea lanes as its main duties. Because of this, this kind of navy has high speed boats, battleships and submarines as its main combat strength.

Countries adopting continental naval strategy have traditionally secured living space and achieved economic independence by advancing into a continent. Naval forces could not help but be subordinate to continental strategy because these nations considered the land more important than the seas. Navies have been thought of only as a means to deny approach to enemy naval forces. Historically, France, Germany, the Soviet Union, and China have chosen this strategy.

Maritime naval strategy is not subordinate to ground-forces strategy. The navies of nations choosing this strategy play the following roles: "sea control" (fighting with enemy naval forces on the surface, below the surface, and in the air), "maritime force projection" (Attack on enemy ground forces using naval forces. This means the use of naval gun fire or missiles from naval vessels, amphibious landing operations, or carrier-based aircraft to attack enemy forces), "naval display of force" (Mobilizing naval forces for a display of power with political objectives. The dispatch of a U.S. aircraft carrier to Korea when North Korea has taken some provocative action falls into this category.) and "strategic deterrence" (Because submarines loaded with ballistic missiles navigate the world's oceans in secret, they can launch ballistic missiles, destroying enemy ground forces, even after their own ground forces have been destroyed by an enemy nuclear attack. This deterrence of enemy nuclear attack due to submarines counterattack capability is called strategic deterrence.).

Thus, maritime naval strategy has traditionally been chosen by maritime nations who have achieved their economic wealth through maritime commerce and guaranteed their national security by maintaining naval supremacy. Historically, this strategy has been chosen by Spain, Great Britain, Japan, and the United States.

Continental naval strategy tries to deny the use of the seas; maritime naval strategy tries to use them. Korea, with oceans on three sides, is in a position that anyone would say demands the use of seas. Therefore, a change from the existing continental strategy to a maritime strategy is urgently needed.

A detailed account of the four roles of maritime naval strategy is as follows:

First, the role of controlling of the seas is made up of operations to blockade enemy fleets, operations to attack enemy fleets, operations to protect sea lanes, etc.

The United States's Navy's control of the seas seen in the Gulf War began with a five and one half month carrier-based sea blockade of the Arabian Gulf, the Mediterranean Sea, and the Red Sea. This continued with offensive operations against the enemy fleet upon receiving orders to begin the attack on 17 January 1991. Also, the U.S. Navy carried out sea transport operations, safely transporting by sea 95 percent of the military supplies needed for the whole Gulf War, 7,500,000 tons, during hostilities. For a maritime navy, this sea-control role means the execution of all operations controlling enemy naval forces on, below, and in the air above the oceans' surface.

Second is the role of maritime force projection. If sea control is related to enemy naval forces, then maritime force projection is a strike applied against enemy ground forces (the ground and air forces of an enemy nation with bases on land). Maritime force projection is divided into several large categories: naval gun and missile bombardment, bombardment by carrier-based tactical aircraft, and amphibious assault (amphibious operations).

In the Gulf War, the commencement of offensive operations by the multinational force began with a bombardment of U.S. Navy Tomahawk missiles. During the course of the war, battleships, destroyers, cruisers, and nuclear-powered attack submarines (SSN) of the U.S. Navy fired over 280 Tomahawk missiles, dealing a blow to the heart of Iraq. The over 30 rounds of naval-gun support fire from the battle ships Missouri and Wisconsin also correspond to maritime force projection.

Over 300 carrier-based aircraft participated in the tactical air bombardment of enemy forces. Since the total number of multinational aircraft sortied was 800, the bombardment by U.S. Naval aircraft was clearly enormous. The total number of air-sorties by the multinational forces was 110 thousand. Of these, 26 percent or 29 thousand sorties, were carried out by the U.S. Navy.

The U.S. Navy sent 36 of its total 66 landing ships to the Gulf War for the amphibious assault. Although it was able to carry out an amphibious operation by the Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF), it was an operation to cut off enemy supplies, and thus only played the role of fixing enemy ground forces on the coasts of Kuwait and Iraq.

The third role of a maritime navy is the naval display of force. This role, which used to be called "Gunboat Diplomacy," is unique to the navy and is for achieving political objectives without going to war. It is either the preventive deployment of a fleet to prevent war or its reactive deployment when an incident has already occurred to keep it from getting any worse.

If a U.S. carrier fleet had been preventively deployed to Kuwait before Iraq invaded, this would have had a considerable influence on Saddam Husayn's decision-making process. The United States failed at preventive deployment, but was successful in its reactive deployment and was able to prevent the expansion of the war.

The fourth role is strategic deterrence. When the Second World War was brought to an end by the advent of the atomic bomb, the prevailing opinion was that the role of the U.S. Navy was finished. However, the U.S. Navy created the submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) with its secondary strike capability (the ability to launch a counterattack against enemy ground forces with ballistic missiles loaded on submarines because they would survive, even after an enemy nuclear attack had destroyed friendly ground forces), greatly expanding its role in the field of nuclear deterrence.

Of the four strategies of a maritime navy, sea control and maritime force projection are an application of power, that is, they are war-fighting strategies; naval display of force and strategic deterrence are a threat of power, that is, they are war-deterrance strategies. It is the mobile task force, which includes an aircraft carrier, that is the most central to carrying out sea control, maritime force projection and naval displays of power.

Based on these two main streams of naval strategy, what kind of naval strategy has been adopted by Korea during the half century since the founding of its Armed Forces? Because the Korean Navy was created by recommissioning and taking over decommissioned warships from the U.S. Navy, it appeared, at first, to be adopting a maritime naval strategy. However, with the cessation of the taking over of U.S. warships and increased infiltration by spy ships from North Korea, this rapidly turned into a continental strategy putting emphasis on coastal defense.

According to the assessment of *Jane's Fighting Ships of the World Annual*, the Korean Navy is, organizationally, a mere continental navy emphasizing coastal defense with its main force generally made up of high speed boats (PKM) under 200 tons and thousand-ton patrol craft (PCC).

The Korean Navy's choice of a continental strategy emphasizing coastal defense is only too similar to the strategy of the Choson navy before Hideyoshi's invasion [in 1592]. The Chingwan System [a regional defense system] was established during the reign of Choson's King Sejo. This system was adopted because Japanese pirates chose locations beyond the reach of Choson's defensive capacity for sudden, sporadic attack and plunder. Having to defend against this, Choson had no choice but to deploy its navy dispersed along its entire coastline. The Choson navy had adopted a continental naval strategy subordinate to the army's local-defense strategy, the Chingwan System.

The Choson navy of this period had firepower vastly superior to that of the Japanese ships and maintained over one hundred hard wooden ships. It is clear that, had the Korean government ascertained the Japanese intention to invade before hand, concentrated its fleet of wooden ships at Pusan-po and kept watch on Tsushima, the Hideyoshi Invasions would have ended in the waters before Pusan.

Four years before the Hideyoshi Invasion there was a sea battle between the Spanish Armada and the English Navy. Queen Elizabeth and Admiral Howard understood the possibility that the Spanish Armada would invade England. They had over 60 main warships assemble in Plymouth Harbor. They kept watch on the waters around Lizard Point and, when the Armada began heading toward England, launched a decisive attack, annihilating it.

Compared to the main warships of Japan and Spain, the main warships of Choson and England had in common their superior firepower and inferior numbers. However, England fought its sea battles with a maritime naval strategy; Choson permitted Japanese Armies to land with its continental naval strategy centered on coastal defense. As a result, England destroyed the Spanish Armada ushering in a dazzling era of English Naval supremacy, but Choson suffered a Japanese invasion and was ravaged by Japanese troops for seven years.

In view of this, in what direction must Korea's future naval strategy be developed and how should a new naval force be composed and developed to fit this strategy?

In developing the Korean Navy, the focus of our thoughts, more important than anything else, will be the re-establishment of its roles. Generally, the Korean Ministry of National Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Navy's elite believe that the Korean Navy too is carrying out a maritime strategy of sea control and maritime force projection. However, this author believes this to be misperception coming out of a misunderstanding of our actual naval forces. The only role carried out by the Korean Navy is that of a continental navy: sea denial emphasizing coastal defense.

If the Korean Government really intends to give the Korean navy a maritime role emphasizing sea control, maritime force projection and naval display of force, then it must redevelop the Korean Navy's surface, air and submarine forces.

All modern surface combat ships have helicopters on board, they are capable of antishipping warship operations and of launching surface-to-air missiles, and they have "Soft Kill" (causing an enemy missile to miss its target by confusing its guidance systems) and "Hard Kill" (knocking down enemy missiles by firing missiles or guns) systems to defend against enemy guided missiles.

In view of this, the Korean Navy must be developed so that, for combat ships, it maintains a mix of at least seven to nine-ton guided-missile destroyers (SEA CONTROL) and 3.5 thousand-ton guided-missile escorts (FFG). Not only must guided-missile destroyers have the Aegis system, superior to the Patriot system, for antiaircraft and antimissile defense, but it must also have a system capable of launching Tomahawk missiles. Guided-missile destroyers and guided-missile escorts must have helicopters aboard to be a strong surface action group.

One Korean Navy surface action group could be composed of two Guided-missile destroyers and four guided-missile escorts with these capabilities. Although these warships would be few in number, they would have tremendous power because they can stop the attack of over a hundred surface-to-surface and air-to-surface guided missiles, can occasionally launch an attack of over a hundred surface-to-surface and surface-to-air guided missiles at the same time and can readily launch an attack using antisubmarine guided torpedoes. They must have the capability to launch a Tomahawk guided-missile attack to deliver a blow to the heart of enemy territory as well as provide fire support for one marine division.

A surface action group composed of two Guided-missile destroyers and four guided-missile escorts is the most appropriate force structure capable of escorting a future carrier and it could escort a medium-sized fleet of 50 ships.

Korea's circulation of goods with foreign countries exceeded 200 million tons in 1990. Maritime transport needed for this every month is 50-60 oil tankers (130 thousand to 150 thousand-ton class) and 250-350 cargo ships (25 thousand to 35 thousand-ton class). If this shipping is to be escorted on the North American, South American, Middle East, and Korea-Japan routes out to a range of one thousand miles, then three to five escort groups (surface action groups) will be needed based on 1990's figures.

If the Korean Navy were to maintain and develop the above surface action groups, it would be useful in combined exercises with the United States and other allies and friendly nations because of compatibility.

As was pointed out by Russia's Admiral Gorshikoff, modern sea warfare is characterized by increased combat range, expanded three-dimensional combat, and the proliferation of guided missiles. Therefore, although few in number, surface actions groups are essential for modern sea warfare.

Under the premise that a future carrier-escort force is to be developed, after a surface force (warships), consideration must be given to an underwater force (submarines). According to reports, the Korean Navy purchased a 209-class conventional submarine from Germany. However, this writer believes that, although it may be necessary to maintain a few conventional submarines for the Korean Navy to accumulate experience and skills concerning them, there is no reason to secure a large number of conventional submarines for naval-force improvement. This is because nuclear-powered attack submarines, not conventional ones, are the underwater force essential for carrier-group operations.

If the Korean Navy adopts a maritime naval strategy, then the maintenance of an aircraft carrier with tactical

aircraft aboard is absolutely necessary. It is unquestionable that if the Korean Navy secures an aircraft carrier, the essence of its national military strategy will be greatly improved.

Even if we view the issue centered only on the Korean Peninsula, not only would a carrier group be able to handle a sea-based, aerial threat from the south, east, and west, but it could also manage any aerial threat from north of the Korean-Manchurian border.

Because Army and Air Force bases are located on the ground, there are limits to their tactical and strategic operations. On the other hand, air power based on an aircraft carrier is advantageous because of its mobility in being able to approach enemy territory.

Thus, this writer believes that the Army and Air Force should actually strongly demand the development of carrier tactical aviation, which is a mobile-base system. This is because when the aerial-combat capability of the Korean military is structured three-dimensionally through fixed Air Force bases and carrier-based tactical aviation, its efficiency will be vastly improved.

If it receives carrier-based, tactical air support from the sea when engaged in ground combat, the Korean Army too will be able to demonstrate great flexibility. So this writer sees no reason for it to oppose the Navy's acquisition of an aircraft carrier.

According to American Navy Captain De La Mater's thesis, *The Role of the Aircraft Carrier in Sea Control*, there are 20 thousand-ton class mini-carriers, 40 thousand-ton class small carriers, 60 thousand-ton class medium carriers, 75 thousand-ton class large carriers and 90 thousand-ton class maximum carriers (Maximum CV).

Of these, the 20 thousand-ton class mini-carrier has only very limited capability and the maximum carrier is too expensive, so neither are worth consideration by the Korean Navy. This writer believes that it would be a good idea for the Korean Navy to select an appropriate carrier from among the small, medium and large-sized carriers.

For the small carriers, there is the Essex-class American carrier, the Kiev-class Russian carrier and the De Gaulle-class French carrier. Although only of the 40 thousand-ton class, because they can carry out limited raids and can operate A-6/7 as well as vertical take off and landing aircraft (VSTOL), they are capable of almost all sea-control functions. Because small aircraft carriers can readily manage the high-performance antisubmarine aircraft S-3 and the antisubmarine helicopter SH-3, and also operate the E-2C early warning aircraft, they are the most efficient at antisubmarine warfare.

Medium carriers are similar to the Midway-class American aircraft carrier. They are capable of carrying and operating almost all tactical aircraft, except high-performance aircraft. According to the analysis of the

American navy, the medium carrier has good survivability in an average-level threat zone and, as a carrier, has average operational capabilities.

The 75 thousand-ton Forrestal-class aircraft carrier belongs to the class of large carriers and is capable of handling high-performance aircraft. It is said that, in a limited period, it can demonstrate complete tactical-aviation capability even in a high-threat environment.

Analyzing the various factors, this writer thinks it is the small carrier which the Korean Navy can introduce. This writer also thinks that the introduction of the small carrier is the minimum prerequisite for the Navy's execution of its duties.

In the future, the two main duties of the Korean Navy will be to control the sea around the Korean Peninsula and maintenance of sea lanes. In light of this, we can say that sea control is needed more than maritime force projection. Resistance to the Korean Navy adopting a small-carrier system would be small since this would mean that it would not have the tactical-aviation capability appropriate for maritime force projection, such as the invasion of neighboring countries.

A small-carrier system for the protection of sea lanes is most suited for the execution of fleet-protection and hunter-killer operations. A small carrier can employ 30 some aircraft.

If the Korean Navy chooses a medium-carrier system, it would have met sufficient prerequisites for carrying out its two main duties of controlling the seas around the Korean Peninsula and protecting sea lanes. The medium carrier can employ 60 aircraft, twice the number of a small carrier, so its maritime force-projection capabilities in particular are superior.

If the Korean Navy were to select a large carrier such as the Forrestal-class, this would mean that its duties leaned more toward maritime force projection than toward sea control.

There has been a good deal of heated debate over what kind of aircraft carrier to choose in the U.S. Navy too. Those holding to the small-carrier position are of the opinion that it would be advantageous to secure a large number of low-priced small carriers; those holding the maximum-carrier position insist that, although they are expensive, the maintenance of high-performance maximum carriers capable of continuous operations in even a high-threat environment would be cost effective and thus more advantageous. Amidst these opposing positions, the U.S. Navy is showing a preference for a large-carrier system.

One carrier group can be composed of one aircraft carrier, two guided-missile destroyers, four guided-missile escorts and two nuclear-powered attack submarines. We will look at the cost of investing in a carrier group by dividing it into escort force and carrier.

On a large, high-performance destroyer equipped with the Aegis system (seven thousand to nine thousand-ton class), the Aegis system itself exceeds \$350 million. Consider the case of Japan's Maritime Self-defense Force: it required a total investment of \$900 million to acquire an Aegis destroyer. It is reported that guided-missile escorts (FFG) require about \$300 million per vessel and nuclear-powered attack submarines (SSN) about \$600 million. Thus, about 4.2 billion is needed to make the investment in an escort force for one carrier.

The investment costs for an aircraft carrier vary tremendously depending on the model. The French Navy's Charles De Gaulle-class, small, nuclear-powered carrier (standard model: 34.5 thousand tons), to be commissioned in 1998, will cost 13.9 billion Francs [F] (\$2.6 billion), according to the predictions of *Jane's Fighting Ships of the World Annual*.

Calculating the cost of producing a medium carrier (60 thousand-ton class), it appears that it will require a total of \$7 billion: \$4 billion for the carrier itself and \$3 billion for the carrier's tactical aviation. The total cost of producing a large carrier is estimated to be about \$11.5 billion: \$7.5 billion for the ship itself and \$4 billion for the carrier's tactical aviation.

Thus, including an escort force (two guided-missile destroyers, four guided-missile escorts and two nuclear-powered attack submarines), the total investment required to prepare a small-carrier group is \$8.2 billion, a medium-carrier group is \$11.2 billion and a large-carrier group is \$15.7 billion.

The problem is whether the Korean Navy can procure these investment monies with its normal-scale budget.

The chart above is a calculation of the additional investment monies the Korean Navy can use for the next 20 years, from 1993 to 2012. This chart has national-defense investment at 30 percent of additional defense expenditures and naval investment at 20 percent of national-defense investment. Dividing this into periods when GNP-growth rate is 5 percent and when it is 7 percent, and into periods when additional defense expenditures are at 3 percent of the GNP and when they are at 4 percent, it calculates the amount to be invested in the Navy during the next 20 years.

Because each typological carrier-group investment cost presented above is the unit cost based on 1993 figures, there is a need to consider the inflation rate (about 5 percent). When we compare carrier-group investment costs, with inflation rate calculated in, with the navy investment predictions of the above chart, a simple calculation would be that the Korean Navy can invest in two small-carrier groups within the next 20 years. This writer believes that even if predictions on government investment in the navy become pessimistic because of bad economic conditions, the government should readily be able to invest in at least one small-carrier group.

Thus, this writer believes that there are no problems concerning the investment monies needed for the Korean Navy to obtain a carrier fleet. The issue is whether the perceptions of the Korean Government and Korean citizens can be changed enough to allow the adoption of a "maritime naval strategy." The problem is whether they have the will to prepare the sea power needed for a united Korea to fulfill its goal of becoming a key nation in the Pacific Era.

If the Korean Government only had the will to secure a carrier fleet, the investment monies could easily be procured through other means. Assuming the future unification of North and South Korea, a united Korea will possess far too many Air Force ground bases due to the past arms race. The area of one Air Force base is over 2.2 million pyong [8,698,800 square yards]. Because of this, if a united Korea were to sell off one Air Force base, it could easily procure the investment monies for one carrier.

Since its inauguration, the Kim Yong-sam administration has been exposing accumulated injustice and corruption and is increasing the pace of the construction of the New Korea. However, the new administration's concern is concentrated on economic issues and it appears to have little interest in the call for the construction of a new naval force.

Furthermore, because navy leadership was sunk by the new administration's anticorruption campaign, it appears that it will be more difficult for the new navy leadership to make the new administration understand. The success of the new government and the economic growth of the future unified Korea depends on foreign trade. Thus, it is self-evident that the construction of a new naval force capable of ensuring the safety of foreign trade is needed more than anything else. This writer believes that it is from this viewpoint that the new administration must encourage navy leadership.

The defense of continental naval strategy for coastal defense and the protection of territorial waters with a low-capability, inexpensive naval force is a conservative choice which ignores our economic level.

This writer has watched our government leaders visits Hyonchung-sa to pay respects at the shrine of Admiral Yi Sun-sin. What is it they think about before the portrait of Admiral Yi Sun-sin? This writer thinks it shameful to pay respects at the hall of Admiral Yi when the nation is without even one domestically-produced guided-missile destroyer.

The Japanese Navy has already secured a destroyer fleet of over 60 ships and it launched an Aegis guided-missile destroyer. The Chinese Navy is pursuing plans to secure two carriers after building new-model guided-missile destroyers. The U.S. and Russian Navies already possess carrier fleets. This writer believes that, given these circumstances, the only road open to our Navy is to adopt a maritime naval strategy.

* **New Private Networks Emerging in Military**
932C0219A Seoul *CHUGAN CHOSON* in Korean
26 Aug 93 pp 62-63

[Text] New private networks are emerging in the ROK military in the wake of the radical change in the military leadership. According to speculation, officers belonging to the Hanahoe and the 9-9 connection (a group of former members of the 9th Airborne Regiment and the 9th Division when former President No Tae-u was the commander) have been purged and a new order is in the making in the military as a result of the successive surprise reshuffling and the regular reassignment of generals since the inauguration of the new government.

What attracts attention most is the so-called "Kang Chang-song connection." They say a personal network linked to Assemblyman Kang Chang-song, former commander of the Defense Security Command (DSC), is in the making in the military. According to the rumor, Gen. Yi Chun, commanding general of the ROK 1st Army, (Military Academy [MA] 19th graduating class); and Gen. To Il-kyu, commander of the Capital Defense Command, (MA 20th graduating class), are the two typical members with the "Kang Chang-song connection."

In a surprise move, Gen. Yi was appointed as new commander of the 1st Army in late July replacing Gen. Cho Nam-pung while servicing as commander of the Logistic Command. Gen. Yi was once Assemblyman Kang Chang-song's key aide. He served as Kang's aide-de-camp throughout the period in which the assemblyman was the commander of the 5th Division and subsequently the DSC commander. Yi worked only under Kang from the days he was a first lieutenant till he became a major.

Reportedly, that is why Gen. Yi is said to have had a hard time in the days under the Fifth and Sixth Republics, during which the Hanahoe was at the center of power, after he was shoved out to the post of the commander of the 1st Division from the DSC commander's post. Gen. Yi, although the forerunner among the honors group of the MA 19th graduating class, found himself beginning in the mid-1970's in a condition where he was being squeezed out by his MA classmates belonging to the Hanahoe. He was assigned to no particular key post after he served as the commander of the 21st Division and then as the chief of staff for management at the Army Headquarters. Neither did he serve as a corps commander, a post essential to promotion to key posts. Last year he was on the brink of having to doff his uniform in the Logistics Command, but at the eleventh hour he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant general and became commander of the Logistic Command.

Gen. Yi is reputed to be of a reasonable type and relatively clean. Reportedly, he had made no courtesy calls on Assemblyman Kang for 10 years until he called on the latter just before he assumed his new post as the commander of the I Corps.

On the other hand, Gen. To Il-ku was named as commander of the Capital Defense Command in the Kim Yong-sam [YS] style surprise personnel action last April. He served as Assemblyman Kang's chief secretary (major general) when Kang was the commander of the 3d Military District. Gen. To, a graduate rather slow in promotion compared with his MA classmates. While serving as a division commander, he was transferred to the ROK-U.S. Combined Forces Command (CFC), where he was known as an "expert in operations." While serving as deputy chief of staff of the CFC, he was promoted to the commander of the Capital Defense Command.

In an effort to erase the tarnished image of the Capital Defense Command which was involved in political events in the past, Gen. To visits the defense positions on the mountains near Seoul to discuss defensive strategies with his junior commandees, true to his reputation as expert on military operation.

There are practically no other persons who are regarded as having ties with Assemblyman Kang than these two generals. It has been learned that certain L, a colonel who has recently become a section chief in the Ministry of National Defense from the commander of the Nonsan Troop Training Center, once worked as an aide to Assemblyman Kang. Col. L. was Kang's aide-de-camp when the latter was the commander of the 3d Army.

Only a few of Assemblymen Kang's former aides remain in the active service, although he was in the foremost front of the MA eighth graduating class with Gen. Yun Pil-yong, former commander of the Capital Defense Command. People around Kang say that this is because he was held in check by Hanahoe members in the days of the Fifth and Sixth Republics. Previously, Kang purged the Hanahoe through the so-called "Yun Pil-yong case" and later met with ruthless counterblows and retaliation following the 12 December incident [1979]. So, critics say, his close aides must have been held in check just as he was.

Admitting that Commanders Yi and To are the only two men in the active service who have ties with him, Assemblyman Kang finds the reason for it in the Hanahoe.

Said Assemblyman Kang, "When I was the DSC commander in those days, I brought many promising elite officers into the DSC to work under me. They numbered 17 altogether. Col. P., reserve, (MA 12th graduating class); and Col. J., reserve, (MA 12th graduating class), were among them. But all of them, except Gen. Yi Chun and Gen. To Il-kyu, were placed on the reserve list with the rank of colonel or lieutenant colonel, unable to attain the rank of general officer. Gen. Yi and Gen. To wanted to call on me, but I told them not to because their visit might cause them trouble. I met them only after they were named to their present commander's posts."

Defense Minister Kwon's inconspicuous efforts to establish his personal network also draws attention. He has no

distinct personal network because he has worked mostly as a staff officer rather than as a field commander. His major career includes: 6th Division commander, chief of staff of the three services, commander of the Olympics Support Group, Defense Ministry director of planning and management, and vice minister of defense. His personal network is so weak that critics' view—the view that he was able to become the defense minister because he did not have a personal network—sounds convincing.

However, he is different from his predecessors. In the past the DSC commander or the Army chief of staff could meet the president on a one-on-one basis and had a free hand in personnel affairs in the military, whereas the defense minister did not have much power. Defense Minister Kwon is the only person now in the military who meets with the president on a one-on-one basis and exercises considerable influence on personnel affairs in the military. According to critics, that is the reason why a personal network is being formed with him at the center.

In the April reshuffle of corps and division commanders, no one surfaced as a man with the Kwon connection. However, Lt. Gen. P. (MA 21st graduating class), who is known as a Hanahoe member, has been promoted to the post of corps commander despite that other Hanahoe members were left out "in the cold" in the personnel reshuffle, arousing doubts in some quarters. They say Defense Minister Kwon must have shown favor to him because of his personal intimacy with the minister. Lt. Gen. P. never worked under Defense Minister Kwon, but the two are said to be close intimates. It has been learned that the general bought the minister's house in Karak-tong, Songpa, Seoul, late last year.

Defense Minister Kwon reportedly picked out some unknown men of ability for promotion when he was the director of planning and management and later the vice minister. Typical among them is Armament Control Officer Pak Yong-ok (major general, MA 21st graduating class). When Defense Minister Kwon was the director of planning and management, he hired Professor Pak (colonel) of the National Defense College to give him a chance. Pak became the first man to get a star and eventually rise to the rank of major general while working in a policy field. He, now a major general and has a Ph.D. in international politics from Hawaii University, reportedly has been showing his outstanding capability in arms control issues and in the area of North-South negotiations.

There are several colonels who are regarded as Defense Minister Kwon's intimates. Typical of them is Col. K. (MA 28th graduating class), who assisted Mr. Kwon when the latter was vice minister. Col. P., who received a Ph.D. in military science from London University in England, recently drew attention when he took charge of a task force named "the Research Committee for Defense Reform" under the direct jurisdiction of the defense minister.

The Research Committee for Defense Reform is an ad hoc committee consisting of 17 colonels, including lieutenant colonels. The duty of the committee is to thrash out reform plans for the whole breath of national deafens, including the formulation of a new defense strategy, organizational reform, and improvement of the personnel management system and make pertinent recommendations to the defense minister. This is the first time a special mechanism consisting only of colonels has ever been established under the direct jurisdiction of the defense minister. Reportedly, Col. K. is the man who suggested the idea about this committee to the defense minister and who is virtually in overall control of matters relating to its organization, machinery, and operation.

In this way a new order is in the making after the Hanahoe is gone. However, under the new order it is hard to find any distinctive personal network, alignment, or connection similar to the Hanahoe. There is the rumor that an organization called "Nanumhoe," a group opposed to the Hanahoe, exists and that its members are gaining influence.

In connection with the formation of the new order, interested military sources say that it is natural a new order is created with the changes of the times, but there should be no more factionalism like the Hanahoe or the 9-9 connection.

Bank of Korea Announces Money Supply Plans

SK0710030693 Seoul *THE KOREA HERALD* in English 7 Oct 93 p 8

[Text] The Bank of Korea (BOK) will supply about 2.5 trillion won in liquidity this month on a daily average outstanding basis, it said yesterday.

To this end, the central bank plans to maintain the annual growth rate of total money supply, widely known as M2, at 22 percent level this month, much higher than the original target of 17 percent.

The growth rate of M2, which had remained below the 17 percent mark during the first six months of the year, soared to 18.9 percent in July, to 20.3 percent in August and further to 21.4 percent last month.

Accordingly, there are growing concerns about price uncertainty in the face of the ever-increasing money supply.

The recent surge in money supply was mostly ascribable by the central bank to the implementation of the real-name financial transaction system which calls for the mandatory use of real names in all financial transactions.

The real-name system has significantly weakened a fund intermediation function of non-banking financial institutions, resulting in the drop in velocity, rates at which money is spent on goods and services at a given period.

Accordingly, it was inevitable for the central bank to increase the money supply to make up for the market liquidity shortage, the BOK said.

Meanwhile, asked about the year-end money control target, Yu Si-yol, assistant governor of the BOK, said that the central bank has yet to decide the M2 growth rate for this year, hinting that it has already abandoned its original M2 target of 17 percent.

However, the recently oversupplied liquidity will be absorbed on a gradual basis, considering the movement of the money market, Yu said.

On the other hand, M2 expanded by about 3.9 trillion won from the preceding month to 107.5 trillion won last month on a daily average outstanding basis.

In particular, the outstanding M2 grew by a whopping 25 percent from a year earlier and expanded by 6.4 trillion won from August to 111.7 trillion won in September, because of about 3.4 trillion won supplied late last month on which Chusok holidays fell.

In the private sector, about 3.3 trillion won was supplied last month, sharply up from the 1.4 trillion won supplied a year earlier and in the government sector, about 1.5 trillion won was supplied.

Meanwhile, the money market interest rates remained comparatively stable, thanks to the expanded money supply.

Yields on corporate bonds with a three-year maturity dropped from an average of 14.36 percent per annum in August to 13.35 percent last month.

The nationwide dishonored bills rates also edged down from 0.12 percent to 0.10 percent on the average.

Hyon So-hwan Elected President of YONHAP TV News

SK0410011793 Seoul *YONHAP* in English 0041 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 4 (YONHAP)—Hyon So-hwan, president and publisher of YONHAP News Agency, on Monday was elected president of YONHAP Television News (YTN), a 24-hour all news cable television network to be inaugurated in 1995. Hyon, 56, was elected at a general meeting of stockholders and a board of directors meeting.

Kim Yong-il, executive managing director of YONHAP News Agency, was chosen as executive managing director of YTN and Kim Tong-sung, former managing director at Seoul Broadcasting System (SBS) production, was elected a director. In addition, the meetings elected Hyon Sung-chong, chairman of the board of directors of Minjung Hospital, and three others non-permanent directors. Yi Chung-il, president of CHONNAM ILBO, was named a non-permanent auditor.

YTN plans to start employing staff and acquiring facilities and equipment from the end of this month and complete preparatory work by the first quarter of 1994 before launching test broadcasting in November.

KBS-1 Radio Begins Broadcasting to Japan

*SK0210105793 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean
1015 GMT 2 Oct 93*

[Report by Tokyo-based correspondent Yu Kyun]

[Text] The broadcast of KBS-1 radio can now be heard throughout all of Japan.

The (Ken) System, a wire radio corporation headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, concluded a contract with KBS and began broadcasting KBS-1 radio throughout Japan from 1 October.

Satellite Broadcasting Project To Be Delayed

*SK0310022593 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
3 Oct 93 p 2*

[Text] The government has decided to put off broadcasting via satellite until after the term of office of President Kim Yong-sam, it was revealed yesterday. The government was to engage in the project in 1995.

Information Minister O In-hwan released the information in a press conference yesterday, "The Information Ministry has already got approval from President Kim

Yong-sam for the postponement. So, I think it is almost impossible to initiate satellite broadcasting during Kim's term of office."

He said there is no reason to hurry the project along, citing a lot of technological and budgetary problems. Besides this, the nation's major broadcasting companies need more time to prepare for broadcasts via satellite, he added.

Turning to the establishment of private broadcasting companies in local areas, O said the government is giving the idea positive study.

However, the matter will be taken up in earnest only after the settlement of the CATV [community antenna television] system now being pushed by the government, he said.

As for chaebol's participation in operating CATV stations, he said the government is also positively studying the matter.

"In consideration of international competitiveness in new media technologies, the government is thinking of changing its policy of keeping business tycoons out of the market of CATV stations," O said.

Meanwhile, Min. O announced a set of standards for selecting successful applicants for CATV station operators.

He said that the government will accept applications until the end of this month, before launching overall screening and announcing successful applicants in 54 areas around the end of this year.

Burma**Rangoon Reports BBC Request for 'Genuine' News**

*BK0610153593 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 6 Oct 93*

[Text] Mr. (Burcel Clark), BBC southeast asia regional chief, who is currently visiting Myanmar [Burma], called on Brigadier General Myo Thant, minister of information, at the latter's office on Bo Aung Gyaw Road at 1600.

Also present at the meeting were U Thein Sein, deputy minister of information, U Kyi Lwin, director general of Myanmar TV and Broadcasting Department, U Ko Ko Htwe, director of broadcasting, U Kyaw Min, chief editor of THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR, and U Sein Win, head of office of the Information Ministry.

At the meeting, Mr. (Burcel Clark) said he wanted genuine news on Myanmar all the time and consistently, and requested assistance for responsible personnel to answer to queries when BBC tries to confirm news reports it receives regarding Myanmar. Information Minister Brig. Gen. Myo Thant reassured that they would provide as much assistance as possible. Furthermore, Mr. (Burcel Clark) requested further assistance from the Information Ministry to help acquire experienced personnel while making necessary arrangements to improve the BBC Burmese program. The information minister replied that he would give assistance when he is able to.

Mr. (Burcel Clark) later went on a study tour of Myanmar TV and Broadcasting Department and left at 1700. The BBC southeast asia regional chief visited the site office of Myanmar Timber Enterprise [MTE] in North Dagon Myothit this morning at 1000 where responsible personnel answered queries raised by Mr. (Clark).

Next, Mr. (Burcel Clark) accompanied by responsible personnel visited the MTE furniture shop, the Dagon University construction project, classroom no. 7, and theater no. 3 in North Dagon Myothit. Mr. (Clark) also visited the South Dagon Myothit department store.

Six Insurgents Surrender in Mergui

*BK0410144793 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 4 Oct 93*

[Text] Terrorist insurgents, who have come to accept the genuine goodwill and activities of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and after realizing the truth, have been surrendering at various garrisons.

Regional Organizer Maung Thet alias Hoke Sein, Financial Supervisor Aung Thu, and Privates Maung Zaw alias Than Naing and Than Htaik from the BCP [Burma Communist Party] terrorist insurgent organization's Tenasserim Military Region, surrendered with one RPG

launcher, four RPG grenades, two AK-47 assault rifles, two AK-47 magazines and 84 rounds of ammunition, two M-16 assault rifles, two M-16 magazines and 115 rounds of ammunition, at 0800 on 13 September to the Mergui Naval Base.

Similarly, Sergeant Tun Win and Pvt. Soe Tun from the ABSDF [All Burma Students' Democratic Front] terrorist insurgent organization's 2d company, 203d battalion, surrendered with one AK submachine gun, three AK-47 assault rifles, one submachine gun magazine belt, one submachine gun ammunition bag, one AK-47 magazine, 290 rounds of ammunition, and one RPG grenade, at 1600 on 16 September to the Mergui Military Garrison.

It has been learned that they were warmly welcomed by responsible personnel at the various military garrisons.

Trade Delegation Returns From Visit Abroad

*BK0510152493 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 5 Oct 93*

[Text] A Myanmar [Burmese] delegation led by Lieutenant General Tun Kyi, member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and minister of trade, returned to Yangon [Rangoon] by air this evening after visiting Singapore, the Republic of Korea [ROK], and Indonesia at the invitation of the Trade and Industry Ministry of the Republic of Singapore, the (Taejon) Trade Fair Committee of the ROK, and the Trade Ministry of the Republic of Indonesia, respectively.

The delegation was welcomed at Yangon Airport by Lt. Gen. Tin U, secretary-2 of SLORC; Lt. Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw, member of SLORC and minister of culture; Lt. Gen. Kyaw Ba, member of SLORC and minister of hotels and tourism; Colonel Aung Thaung, deputy minister of trade; advisers from the trade ministry; managing directors from enterprises under the Trade Ministry and responsible personnel; Mr. Kim Chong-hwan, ambassador of the ROK; Mr. Anthony Chng Chye Tong, charge d'affaires of the Singapore Embassy; responsible personnel from the Indonesian Embassy; relatives; and friends.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore**Malaysia****U.S. News Report on Troops in Somalia
'Unfounded'**

BK0710101493 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 7 Oct 93

[Text] Defense Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak has denied foreign news report that the Malaysian soldiers on UN peacekeeping duty in Somalia are not trained. He said the allegation is unfounded.

THE NEW YORK TIMES reported that lack of training had caused one of the Malaysians to be killed when taking part in an operation to rescue U.S. Rangers trapped in Bakara two days ago.

Datuk Sri Najib said the United States Government has thanked Malaysia for joining in the operation. Only the media are making such allegation. He told the news conference in Kuala Lumpur that the operation failed due to poor coordination among the multinational forces. He said the government has full confidence in the integrity and professionalism of its troops in Somalia.

Inflation Rate Up in First 8 Months of 1993

BK0510063393 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 2 Oct 93 p 14

[Text] Malaysia's inflation rate as measured by the average consumer price index (CPI) rose 3.8 percent in the first eight months of this year over the corresponding period of 1992.

The Statistics Department said the CPI for August eased 0.3 percent over July 1993 but was 2.8 percent higher over that of August 1992.

The CPI for January-July 1993 rose 3.9 percent over the corresponding period of 1992, while the July CPI was up by 0.4 percent over June 1993 and 3.6 percent higher over July 1992.

With base year 1990 = 100, the Jan-Aug 1993 index stood at 112.7 against 108.6 in Jan-Aug 1992. The August 1993 index stood at 113.4 against 110.3 in August 1992 and the July 1993 index stood at 113.7 against 109.8 in July 1992.

It said the 3.8 percent rise was due to increases for all the main groups with notable increases of 18.8 percent in beverages and tobacco, 6.4 percent in transport and communication and 5.2 percent in medical care and health expenses.

Other increases were gross rent, fuel and power (3.7 percent), miscellaneous goods, services (2.7 percent), food (1.8 percent), furniture, furnishings and household equipment and operation (one percent), clothing and footwear (0.7 percent), and recreation, entertainment, education, cultural services (0.4 percent).

The four main groups of transport and communication, beverages and tobacco, food and gross rent, fuel and power accounted for 91.1 percent of the overall increase.

The department said the 0.3 percent fall for the August CPI over that of a month ago was due to a fall in the indices of two out of the nine main groups.

These were the food group which eased 1.2 percent and clothing and footwear which eased 0.5 percent.

Five main groups which recorded increases were miscellaneous goods and services (0.7 percent), gross rent, fuel and power (0.4 percent), furniture, furnishings and

household equipment and operation (0.3 percent), medical care and health expenses (0.2 percent), and transport and communication (0.1 percent).

The indices for beverages and tobacco remained unchanged at 134.5 and that for recreation, entertainment, education, cultural services also remained at 105.9.

Cambodia

Suspected Khmer Rouge Destroy Two Bridges

BK0610163293 Hong Kong AFP in English 1303 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] Aranyaprathet, Thailand Oct 6 (AFP)—Suspected Khmer Rouge guerrillas blew up two bridges along a strategically important road in northwest Cambodia, a Cambodian government officer stationed on the border here said Wednesday.

The bridges were destroyed on Route 5 between Cambodia's second city of Battambang and the nearby provincial capital of Sisophon.

Route 5 is the main communication link with Thailand and the destruction of the bridges had disrupted trade with this Thai border town, the officer said.

The Cambodian officer said he suspected the sabotage was the responsibility of Khmer Rouge guerrillas who were hoping to create political confusion.

It would take about one week to repair the damaged bridges, he said.

Khmer Rouge Deny Holding Up 30 Thai Workers

BK0710032393 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Statement by the spokesman of the party of Democratic Kampuchea on 6 October; place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] Denial of the spokesman of the party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] concerning the evil propaganda saying that the PDK held up 30 Thai workers:

1. On the morning of 6 October, the Voice of America reported that the PDK held up 30 Thai workers inside Cambodia.
2. The PDK totally rejects this evil propaganda.
3. This report is a piece of propaganda with the malicious political aim of fooling world public opinion, which is far away from the real situation in Cambodia.
4. It should be recalled that during the past month, the allies kept launching systematic propaganda to confuse world public opinion and sow discord between the two peoples and two countries.

This is evidence showing that the policy of the evil elements will never serve to bring happiness to each country and its people or between countries. On the contrary, they want only to cause disunity for their own interests. However, the people of the world are well aware of their evil, aggressive faces.

[Dated] 6 October 1993
[Signed] The Spokesman of the PDK

Agreement Reached on Israeli Relations

*BK0510123893 Phnom Penh AKP in English 1023
GMT 5 Oct 93*

[Text] Phnom Penh AKP October 5—Cambodia and Israel have reached an agreement on establishing diplomatic relations between the two countries as they signed a joint communique on Oct. 4 at the United Nations headquarters.

The communique was signed by, on the Cambodian side, Norodom Sirivut, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, and, on the Israeli side, Shimon Peres, foreign minister.

The two sides expressed firm conviction that the cooperation and mutual understanding would be maintained and developed for the interests of the two peoples which is the contribution to the strengthening of international cooperation and peace in the world.

Norodom Sirivut is among delegates of the Kingdom of Cambodia to attend the 48th General Assembly of the United Nations organization.

Minister Receives German Envoy; Ties Upgraded

*BK0410120593 Phnom Penh National Voice of
Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT
4 Oct 93*

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Uch Kim-an, deputy minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, on the morning of 3 October received H.E. Wolfgang Lerke, who came to present the document upgrading the official relations between Germany and the Kingdom of Cambodia to diplomatic ties. H.E. Wolfgang Lerke, who was the permanent mission representative of Germany to the Supreme National Council, has been reappointed as extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia as of 3 October 1993. The Kingdom of Cambodia will establish an embassy in Germany in the near future.

H.E. Uch Kim-an was very pleased to welcome the German ambassador. He thanked German Government for its efforts in the search of peace for Cambodia and its continued assistance to rebuild the country toward prosperity.

H.E. Wolfgang Lerke said he was very happy to be upgraded to the rank of ambassador at a time when the

German Government celebrated its national day. He said he would at all times remember the fine relations between the two nations.

'Official' Translation of Constitution Underway

*BK0610123193 Phnom Penh National Voice of
Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[“Communiqué”]

[Text] The Secretariat of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia would like to inform the general public that the Secretariat is in the process of translating our Constitution into English and French and it considers this translation official. The Secretariat, therefore, shall not recognize any other translation and shall not be held responsible for any misinterpretation thereof.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 30 September 1993
[Signed] Tol Loah, secretary-general

Finance Minister Denies Involvement in Savings Scam

*BK0610060493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0554 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Bangkok, Oct 6 (AFP)—Cambodia's Finance Minister Sam Rangsi has strongly rejected allegations that he was involved in a savings and investment scam in northwestern Cambodia.

In a statement issued Tuesday from Brussels the Cambodian minister described the allegations by Thai border officials in an AFP report as "completely unfounded."

The officials in the Thai city of Aranyaprathet, across from Cambodia's northwestern border, had identified Sam as the president of a finance company which has allegedly offered astronomical interest rates for money deposited in worthless 100-baht (four-dollar) "shares" with a non-existent fund.

"I hold no participation in any company or commercial undertaking operating in Cambodia or in Thailand," Sam said in his statement.

"Aside from my official positions as a minister and a National Assembly member I hold no position involving any kind of remuneration be it directly or indirectly," he said.

"Nor have I been acting as 'a cover' for any illegal activity liable to affect the interests of my compatriots or my country."

Thirty-two Thais and six Cambodians were arrested last week in northwestern Cambodia over the fraud in which some 8,000 Cambodians lost an approximate two million dollars, Thai Foreign Ministry spokesman Sakthip Krairoek said Tuesday in the Thai capital.

According to Thai border officials, the alleged Thai organiser of the scheme, Bua Bunkoet, has promised that his company, Battambang Investment Company Ltd, will repay the money.

Bua is currently in custody in the northwestern Cambodian city of Battambang. Sam Rangsi is in Brussels at the invitation of the European Commission.

Radio Reports 27 Sep-3 Oct Military Activities

BK0710035193 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] According to a report of the Third Department of the Khmer Royal Armed Forces [KRAF], in the past week from 27 September to 3 October, the army of Democratic Kampuchea [ADK] committed 32 military violations mainly in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey and Banteay Meanchey Provinces.

In Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, they fired H-107, DK-75, DK-82, and 82-mm and 60-mm cannon shells into Sre Noy, (Chrung), and Angkor Chum. Meanwhile, the ADK troops launched attacks on our KRAF's positions at O Smach and Ta Siem and the field command headquarters of the 179th Division north of Sre Noy.

After the KRAF launched self-defense operations in the northern part of Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey province, the ADK changed its activities by sending small groups of troops to plant mines to cut off bridges and launch ambushes in public roads at (Chrung), Sre Noy, Sre Leu, and areas north of Siem Reap Province. It set up defense lines to counter our KRAF in some areas, such as at (Phnum Ktak), on top Phnum Kulen, and at Sre Noy. At the same time, it sent small groups of troops to counter our attacks. Meanwhile, the bulk of their forces either took refuge on top of Phnum Kulen or fled to Anlung Veng.

In Banteay Meanchey province, on 27 September, the ADK fired artillery shells into a KRAF position at Nam Tau in Phnum Srok District and a position of the 42d Regiment at Nimit, wounding one of our forces. Later, the ADK forces banned the inhabitants from moving from one place to another.

Also in Banteay Meanchey province, the ADK is building and strengthening its defense lines by setting up artillery sites and a barrier system in Malai, Mak Hoeun, Ta Kong Krau and Say Saman in the southern part of Route 5.

In Battambang Province, the ADK is persuading the inhabitants in Bavel, Ratanamondol, and Battambang Districts to buy materiel for its forces in Pailin.

Also during the past week, the spirit of our KRAF remained strong. They won victories in all self-defense operations, recapturing many localities seized earlier by

the ADK. They are currently consolidating their positions in line with local conditions.

Our KRAF also exercised their right to self-defense in others areas in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey, Kompong Chhnang, Kompong Cham, and Kompong Thom Provinces, during which they killed 52 ADK troops, captured 33 others, welcomed (?67) compatriots who volunteered to return to the national society, seized 338 assorted weapons, three cars, seven rice milling machines, a saw, three generators, and a quantity of war materiel.

Indonesia

Government To Ban Ozone-Depleting Substances

BK0610135993 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1517 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 4 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesia will ban the use of chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) by the year 1997, methyl bromide at the end of 1995, and halon in 2000, an official said.

The cost of the banning which has been gradually enforced from 1992 will be worth 365 million dollars, said assistant to the minister of environment Sugandhy here on Monday.

"We need 72 million dollars per year during the five years period (1992 to 1997)," he told the press after attending a seminar on ozone protection. The government decision is aimed at protecting ozone, he said.

CFC, methyl bromide, and halon are known as ozone depleting substances (ODS). CFC, a refrigerant, is mostly used for air conditioning, refrigerator, and as cleaning substance in electronic and telecommunication industries. Halon is a basic substance for extinguisher, while methyl bromide is known as the cheapest fumigant used for insecticide.

The program of banning the use of such ODS will be carried by the National Committee for Ozone Protection. Sugandhy said that some international institutions will be engaged in the program by providing some financial and technical assistances.

Indonesia currently consumes 0.3 kgs ODS per capita and has imported the substances since 1984. Data from the Central Bureau for Statistics shows that from 1984 to 1990 the import volume of ODS increase by 16.6 percent.

Suharto Stresses Armed Forces' Dual Function

BK0510101393 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] President Suharto has said that the uncertain global economic situation and the backwardness and poverty of some people may become new seeds of tension in the world. The head of state expressed his opinion during a speech marking the 48th anniversary of

the Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia [ABRI] in Jakarta this morning. He reminded the ABRI to remain on full alert as the nation's shield to deal with threats, challenges, and obstacles. President Suharto added, however, that not all threats, challenges, and obstacles should be dealt with militarily:

[Begin Suharto recording] We can deal militarily with some threats, challenges, and obstacles; for example, external attacks and internal uprisings. Some threats, challenges, and obstacles, however, can be handled by non-military means, such as successful political, economic, and sociocultural development. As heroic soldiers, the ABRI and the people must deal with all threats, challenges, and obstacles together. We will be able to deal with any threats, challenges, and obstacles if the ABRI remains united with the people. Being united with the people, the ABRI will definitely be able to perform its duty and support the people's efforts to achieve progress, prosperity, and social justice in a Pancasila society. [end recording]

On this occasion, President Suharto also stressed the need for the ABRI to remain a stabilizing and dynamizing force in the nation, become a pioneer, and set an example for the people.

The 48th ABRI Day commemorative ceremony, also attended by Mrs. Suharto and Vice President and Mrs. Try Sutrisno, was highlighted by various attractions demonstrating the ABRI's progressive development. For about two hours, the ABRI demonstrated the skills of its personnel in such areas as parachuting, flying Indonesian Air Force fighters in various formations, using artillery weaponry, and staging a military parade involving all ABRI elements.

Suharto Inaugurates Remote Sensing Satellite

BK0610020093 Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English 30 Sep 93 p 1

[By our reporter]

[Excerpts] President Suharto said Wednesday that the development which gives high priority on agricultural sector is the right strategy.

"The development has succeeded to increase people's income and the national economy grew significantly," Suharto said in his speech inaugurating a number of development projects in Pare-pare on Wednesday.

Suharto said that the number of the poor was declining. However, the current number of the poor, around 27 million, is still remarkable.

Projects inaugurated by the president are earth station's remote sensing satellite, Langkame irrigation networks, a soft drink factory, Morante Hotel, and other some projects. [passage omitted]

The newly inaugurated remote sense [sensing] satellite is to monitor the country's natural resources.

Chairman of the National Outerspace Institute (LAPAN), Prof. Wiryo sumarto, said that the project had been designed since 20 years ago.

The satellite which was operated since December 1992 could detect and record 97 percent of Indonesia's natural resources. Aceh is the only province that could not be reached by the satellite, but it could reach parts of the Philippine, Malaysian, and Australian territories.

Burmese Trade Delegation Meets Suharto 30 Sep

BK0610151593 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] The visiting leader of the Myanmar [Burmese] trade delegation, Lieutenant General Tun Kyi, member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council and trade minister, accompanied by Myanmar Ambassador to Indonesia U Nyunt Tin, paid a courtesy call on President Suharto of the Republic of Indonesia at 0900 on 30 September. At the meeting, cordial and frank talks were held to enhance bilateral goodwill relations on matters of economics, trade, and technical cooperation.

Also present at the meeting were Indonesian Trade Minister Dr. S. B. Yudono and members of the Myanmar trade delegation. These were Divisional Commander Colonel Ye Myint from the Ministry of Defense; Lieutenant Colonel Kyaw Myint, director general of the Directorate of Trade; and U Aung Kyi, director.

During their visit to Indonesia, the Myanmar trade delegation led by Trade Minister Lt. Gen. Tun Kyi, accompanied by Myanmar Ambassador U Nyunt Tin, visited separately and held cordial and frank talks with Indonesian Trade Minister Dr. S. B. Yudono; Mr. Hartarto, coordinating minister for industrial and trade affairs; and Dr. Ibrahim Hassan, minister of state for food affairs and head of the Logistics Board.

Furthermore, the Myanmar delegation met and held talks with Mr. (Hojun Arjanti), president of the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry [ICCI]. They also attended a seminar on investment and trade opportunities in Myanmar sponsored by the ICCI and met and held talks with Indonesian entrepreneurs.

Laos

President Receives DPRK Assembly Delegation

BK0610131193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] This morning, Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, and his delegation which is currently on a five-day visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], paid a courtesy call on Nouhak Phoumsavan, Political Bureau member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] and LPDR president, at the Presidential Office in Vientiane.

On this occasion, President Nouhak Phoumsavan welcomed the visit of the DPRK delegation. He noted that this visit by the high-level DPRK Supreme People's Assembly delegation will significantly contribute to expanding cooperation and the exchange of experiences with the LPDR National Assembly. He also expressed the hope that following the visit, the traditional solidarity and friendship between the Lao and Korean peoples will be further enhanced and developed ever more profoundly. In conclusion, the president wished Yang Hyong-sop and his delegation glorious and significant success in the official friendship visit.

Chairman of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, Yang Hyong-sop, took the occasion to extend thanks and satisfaction to His Excellency Nouhak Phoumsavan as well as to leading members of the LPDR National Assembly for the warm welcome accorded to him and his delegation. He expressed his conviction that his delegation's visit will significantly contribute to further developing and strengthening the time-honored ties of friendship between the two parties, states, assemblies, and peoples of Korea and Laos. Chairman Yang Hyong-sop also highly assessed the achievements won in many fields by the Lao people in defending and building their country under the clear-sighted leadership of the LPRP. He wished the fraternal Lao people new and still greater success.

President Nouhak Phoumsavan and Chairman Yang Hyong-sop also exchanged views on many issues of common interest on the international and regional situation. Chang Yong-chun, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the DPRK to Laos, also accompanied the delegation in paying a courtesy call on Nouhak Phoumsavan on this occasion.

Saman Vi-gnaket Hosts Banquet

BK0610103393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] Yesterday evening, Saman Vi-gnaket, chairman of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] National Assembly, organized a banquet at the National Assembly Hall in the capital, Vientiane, in honor of Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, and his delegation. The DPRK Supreme People's Assembly delegation headed by Assembly Chairman Yang Hyong-sop is currently on an official friendship visit to the LPDR. The visit is aimed at further strengthening the friendship and solidarity between our National Assembly and the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, as well as between the peoples of Laos and Korea.

National Assembly Chairman Saman Vi-gnaket delivered a speech at the banquet, which proceeded in a warm atmosphere. He said:

[Begin Saman Vi-gnaket recording] This evening, I am very pleased to organize officially, on behalf of the LPDR National Assembly, this banquet in honor of the

high-level DPRK Supreme People's Assembly delegation, currently paying an official friendship visit to the LPDR. On behalf of the National Assembly Standing Committee, National Assembly members, and the multiethnic Lao people throughout the country, I would like to express a wholehearted welcome to the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly delegation on this historic visit to the LPDR. [applause]

Our LPDR National Assembly highly values this visit by the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly delegation led by Comrade Yang Hyong-sop to the LPDR. The visit has contributed positively to promoting the flourishing relations of friendship, solidarity, and cooperation between the parties, states, and peoples of the two countries—Laos and Korea—in the new revolutionary stage in the LPDR and the DPRK. This visit marks a new milestone in the relations and cooperation between the two legislative institutes. By meeting and exchanging straightforward views in a comradely and friendly atmosphere, we have reached a good mutual understanding and achieved unanimity on various regional and world issues. Our National Assembly and the multiethnic people of Laos are elated to note that the time-honored traditions of solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between the parties, states, and peoples of Laos and Korea have been promoted and expanded under the revolutionary banner, with the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] and the Workers Party of Korea as leaders. [end recording]

Later, Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, made a speech in reply. He said:

[Begin Yang Hyong-sop recording, in Korean fading into Lao translation] Today, I am very honored to attend this banquet, held in honor of our delegation on the occasion of our visit to the LPDR. First, I would like to express my profound thanks to Saman Vi-gnaket and the other comrade members of the National Assembly, as well as all the other comrades attending this banquet, for the friendly welcome you have accorded to us. [applause]

The friendly relations and cooperation between Korea and Laos have been broadened, developed, and enhanced with each passing day. Noteworthy were the close relations between Comrade Kim Il-song, Great Leader of the Korean people, and Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, late president of the LPDR. We are very pleased to see the increasing development of our relations and cooperation. We hope that our delegation's visit will contribute significantly to enhancing the friendly relations and cooperation between the two parties, two governments, two assemblies, and two peoples of Korea and Laos. Under the correct leadership of the LPRP, the fraternal Lao people are making more and more glorious achievements in consolidating and strengthening the popular democratic system in the advance to socialism.

Our delegation hails and highly assesses the various great and glorious achievements made by the Lao people in implementing the tasks set forth by the Fifth LPRP Congress. On this occasion, we wish the fraternal Lao people even greater success in carrying out tasks in the next stage. [applause]

Comrades and friends, our Korean people are vigorously struggling to build socialism, defend the country, and unify our Korean nation in accordance with the line and policy put forth by Comrade President Kim Il-song. Under the clear-sighted leadership of our beloved and respected Comrade President Kim Il-song and (?Comrade Yon Hyong-muk), and with the thoughtful support of various peace-loving nations—including the fraternal Lao people—we have made great achievements in our just struggle, though we have faced various difficulties.

On this glorious occasion, on behalf of the Workers Party of Korea and the DPRK Government, I would like to extend profound gratitude to the LPRP, the LPDR Government, and the fraternal Lao people for their constant support for the just and peaceful struggle of the Korean people to reunify the Korean nation. [applause]

In light of the current confused world situation, we feel it is necessary to strengthen further the good friendship and solidarity between our two countries. The DPRK Government has always sought to maintain good and friendly relations with the LPDR Government. We pledge to do our utmost to strengthen these relations further in the next stage. [end recording]

After the banquet, National Assembly Chairman Saman Vi-gnaket invited the state guests to view a traditional Lao song and dance performance staged by the Information and Culture Ministry's art troupe.

GDP, Inflation Rate Rise 6-7 Percent

BK0610094993 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] At the third National Assembly meeting which concluded in early October, Dr. Somphavan Inthavong, chief of the Commission for Economy, Planning, and Finance of the National Assembly, reported that the 1993 Gross Domestic Product increased by approximately six percent compared to that of the previous year. He also reported that the inflation rate is at an intermediate level—about six to seven percent.

Somphavan Inthavong pointed out that the increase in GDP is due to the increased value of products in many sectors such as agriculture, forestry, industry, and services.

On finance, the exchange rate to the U.S. dollar is still 750 kips. The value of the kip has remained around that level for the past three to four years. One reason is because the prices of consumer goods in the local market have been stable.

The amount of foreign currency in banks have increased more than ever before. This is because foreign currencies have been deposited into local bank accounts for investment purposes, he concluded.

Couple Sentenced for Luring Laborers Into Thailand

BK0510114593 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] On 1 October, the People's Court of Savannakhet Province sentenced two offenders—Mr. Seua Thepsiha, 32, resident of Ban Nong Kham, Mukdahan Province, Thailand; and Mrs. Kongmi, 25, citizen of Ban Ton, Na Thon Canton, Atsaphangthong District, Savannakhet Province—on charges of luring Lao people across the border to sell their labor in Thailand.

During interrogation and investigation of the case, the two suspects confessed they committed illegal acts under Articles 69 and 92 of the Criminal Law. Seua Thepsiha confessed that he had been committing such crimes since 1990, misleading a total of more than 100 Lao people into crossing the border during 25 trips into Thailand. He was paid from 1,200 to 1,500 baht per head. His wife Kongmi served as his coordinator in Laos. The husband and wife pair were arrested on 16 March 1993.

The Savannakhet Provincial Public Prosecution Committee and the chairman of the provincial people's court sentenced Seua Thepsiha to six years in prison and his wife Kongmi to one year in jail.

Two Offenders Face 20, 12 Years in Jail

BK0510064393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] Yesterday in Vientiane, the Supreme People's Court sentenced two offenders on charges of swindling and embezzlement of the country's natural resources through illegal timber removal. They are Mr. Vatthana Gningvanitsavong, 46, manager of the Vatthanathavon Export-Import Company, and Mr. Soukhon Vilaikham, 33, cadre of the same company.

The two persons together committed illegal acts, especially against Articles 56, 100, 107, 141, 148, 152, 156, and others of the Criminal Laws.

The Supreme People's Court therefore sentenced Mr. Vatthana Gningvanitsavong to 20 years in prison and Soukhon Vilaikham to 12 years. In addition, the two offenders must also repay the cost of the embezzled state property worth more than 2 billion kips. [passage omitted on announcement of court verdicts]

Philippines

Ramos Endorses Free Trade in Asia

*BK0610101093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0952 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Manila, Oct 6 (AFP)—Philippine President Fidel Ramos on Wednesday, endorsed wider free trade in Asia as he vowed to support the planned ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA.)

"The whole of Asia has no reason to erect tariff walls for protection," Ramos told a conference of Asian retailers. "It should not fear competition."

"Increased trade will benefit all," he added. "None of us should fear ... the greater traffic of Asian products in our respective markets," he added.

Ramos said it was with this hope that the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) decided to create a free-trade area in the ASEAN member nations of Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand over 15 years.

"AFTA will complete our efforts at economic unification designed to give our six countries the cultural variety, the talent pool, the business clout, the technological resilience and the attractiveness to investors required for us to become a major player in the global economy," Ramos added.

The Philippines, which has the poorest performing economy in ASEAN, had also been less eager to fully implement a preferential tariff program intended to pave the way for the creation of AFTA. However, reports have said that government officials are dropping their plans to delay the program's implementation.

Government Structure Said Detrimental to AFTA

*BK0110033593 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 29 Sep 93 p 11*

[Text] Government's tariff reforms and policy-making process towards attaining an Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Free Trade Area (AFTA) are currently snagged by too many, yet less effective government agencies, a study released yesterday by the AFTA advisory commission said.

The study was conducted by the Institute for Strategic and Development Studies (ISDS) and entitled "National Economic Policy Making and Regional Economic Cooperation: AFTA and the Philippines."

Authors of the study, namely: Dr. Ma. Socorro Gochoco-Bautista of the UP [University of the Philippines] School of Economics and Jaime Faustino, M.A. of the UP Department of Political Science, noted in the study that "there are too many government agencies involved in the policy-making process on AFTA and too many channels through which the business sectors can air their views."

"This has several negative effects, among which are the greater opportunities this presents for lobbying and undermining formal institutions and processes," the study said. "This is inefficient."

Business groups waste resources at lobbying, while government officials also waste time listening separately to each group and, worse, develop partially [as published] to strong lobbyists, the study noted.

The study revealed that tariff reforms with regard to AFTA pass through a tedious multi-tiered process.

Proposals on tariff reforms may emanate from any of the several agencies and is usually coursed through the sub-committee on tariffs and related matters (TRM) at the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA).

Public hearings are called separately by the Tariff Commission, the different industry groups of the Board of Investments (BOI), and other bureaus of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), especially the Bureau of International Trade Relations (BITR).

As to ASEAN-related proposals, these are sent to an inter-agency body called the Philippine Council on ASEAN Cooperation (PCAC) instead of NEDA's TRM.

In the case of AFTA, the Tariff Commission, the DTI, BOI and Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) are the major players.

Separate industry-specific hearings are held. Even BOI and DTL which are under one roof, neither coordinate nor are they consistent with each other's findings, the study claimed. Not even discussed lengthily is the occasional participation of Congress and the Department of Finance (DOF), which both exert their respective influence and comments, particularly on the effects of tariff cuts on revenues.

Senators Assail Settlement With Westinghouse

*BK0610135893 Hong Kong AFP in English 1300 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Manila, Oct 6 (AFP)—Philippine senators on Wednesday assailed the government's planned out-of-court settlement with the U.S. firm Westinghouse Electric Corp. over a controversial nuclear power plant.

Senate majority floor leader Alberto Romulo asked why the government did not continue to pursue its court case against Westinghouse.

Senator Rodolfo Biazon said, "It is really unfair to accept the Westinghouse offer which is really a pittance," while Raul Roco, another senator, said, "It is not something we can recommend to our countrymen."

Manila sued Westinghouse for allegedly paying off the regime of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos to win a

contract to build a 620-megawatt, 2.1 billion dollar plant completed in 1986 but never operational because of fears about its safety.

A New Jersey court acquitted Westinghouse of bribery charges last May, but the Philippines had planned to appeal. Manila had also resorted to a commercial arbitration court in Geneva charging Westinghouse with building a defective plant.

But earlier this week President Fidel Ramos said he had approved in principle a proposed compromise under which Westinghouse would provide free of charge two turbine generators worth 49.5 million dollars with a combined capacity of 200 megawatts.

In return, the Philippines would drop the cases and end a de facto ban against the use of Westinghouse equipment in state power projects.

House Speaker Jose De Venecia, a close ally of Ramos, had previously said the majority of congressmen favoured the agreement.

Government officials said the agreement was the best Manila could hope for unless it wanted to pursue costly litigation.

MNLF Accepts Invitation for Peace Talks

BK0510110093 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0930 GMT 5 Oct 93

[Text] The Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] has accepted the government's formal invitation for peace talks. This was the message from an emissary of MNLF Chairman Nur Misuari to the government panel headed by General Eduardo Ermita.

In light of the acceptance, the government is coordinating with the Indonesian Government about where the peace talks will be held.

The talks may start before the end of October.

Roundup of Rebel Activities for 25 Sep-1 Oct

BK0110115993

[Editorial Report] The following is a roundup of reports of Philippine rebel activities from Philippine media monitored by Bangkok bureau from 25 September to 1 October. Source information is given in parentheses at the end of each item.

24 September

Eleven regular members and sympathizers of the New People's Army (NPA) surrendered to the Rizal Philippine National Police (PNP). Rizal PNP provincial director said the surrender of the rebels came after a week of negotiations initiated by his command and a band of rebel returnees led by a certain "Ka Jorge." The rebels took their oath of allegiance before the Rizal

governor at the province's capital. (Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English p 12)

25-27 September

No fileworthy items monitored

28 September

Sixty-four members of the New People's Army (NPA) surrendered to the Zamboanga del Sur governor. The governor assured the surrenderees, who also yielded 42 assorted high-powered firearms, that he would help them in seeking livelihood assistance. (Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English p B-12)

Government troopers captured over the weekend the regional finance chief of the Communist Party of the Philippines and the New People's Army including three of his men after an assault on a rebel camp in Western Samar. Recovered from the assault were three Armalite rifles, an M-14 rifle, a baby Armalite, over 300 rounds of ammunition, and a portable computer. (Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English p 12)

29 September

Interior Secretary Rafael Alunan says 200 Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] rebels surrendered in Tawi-tawi. It's the biggest batch of rebels who surrendered this year. The rebels were accepted during a ceremony attended by government officials in Tawi-tawi. Several high-powered firearms, including anti-tank weapons were surrendered. Among the surrenderees were four MNLF commanders who underwent guerrilla training in the Middle East. (Quezon City PTV-4 Television Network in Tagalog 0500 gmt 29 Sep)

A spokesman of the New People's Army's Dr. Juan Escandor command in Northern Luzon warned mediamen against being used as "willing mediums" of the military in disseminating anti-communist propaganda. The statement was published in a newsweekly based in Nueva Vizcaya. The NPA spokesman assailed the military for using the media in airing "exaggerated and false information" on the government's victory against the communist movement. (Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English p AT-5)

Two weapons and ammunition experts of the New People's Army (NPA) surrendered to military authorities in Camarines Sur after noting the disarray in the Bicol rebel movement. The surrenderees belonged to the Danilo Legaspi Command of the Quezon-Bicol guerilla front operating in Camarines Sur, Camarines Norte and Quezon Province. (Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English p AT-5)

Appointments of 3 Secretaries, Envoys Confirmed

BK0610120093 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0930 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] The Commission on Appointments has confirmed Budget Secretary Salvador Enriquez, Tourism Secretary Vicente Carlos, and Public Works and Highways Secretary Virgilio Vigilar. The three were confirmed in accordance with the commission's rules and regulations.

Even though several commission members voiced opposition, they cannot object to the confirmations because the appointments cannot be deferred during the last plenary session before the congressional recess.

Also confirmed were the appointments of (Shulam Pre-maveera) as ambassador to Kuwait, Juan Saez as ambassador to Brunei, and Menandro Galenzoga as ambassador to Egypt.

Member Withdraws From 1 May Movement

BK3009114693 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0930 GMT 30 Sep 93

[Text] The militant 1 May Movement is a dead organization with leaders but without followers. This was the statement made by Attorney Ibarra Malonzo, president of the National Federation of Labor after announcing his withdrawal from the movement.

Attorney Malonzo said that the movement's ideology and political strategy is its primary concern, which was probably appropriate during the Marcos regime but is not right nowadays.

Thailand

Prime Minister Discusses Regional Issues

BK0710023793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Oct 93 p 4

[“Excerpts” from Prime Minister Chuan Likphai’s address to the 48th Session of the UN General Assembly in New York on 6 Oct]

[Text] With the end of the Cold War, a new spirit of friendly cooperation prevails in Southeast Asia. The international settlement of the Cambodian problem means that for the first time in recent memory the region is free of major armed conflict. In order to construct a new regional order of peace, harmony and prosperity, we the countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) are seeking to intensify various cooperative efforts among ourselves and with our neighbours and friends from outside the region.

Assuming the ASEAN chairmanship this year, Thailand looks forward to working together with all concerned both within and outside the association to advance the causes of peace and prosperity in Southeast Asia.

As the ASEAN member geographically closest to the rest of Southeast Asia, Thailand is in a unique position to serve as a bridge to our non-ASEAN neighbours. Thus, my government wholeheartedly welcomes the accession by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Lao People’s Democratic Republic to the ASEAN Treaty of Amity and Cooperation which sets the broad framework for enhanced cooperation in Southeast Asia.

We earnestly hope the day is not too distant when Laos and Vietnam, together with Cambodia which is on its path towards rejoining the international community, become full members of ASEAN.

In seizing the opportunity to help forge a new regional order of cooperative peace and common prosperity, ASEAN is increasingly appreciative of the function of multilateral diplomacy, particularly the enhanced cooperation between ASEAN and the United Nations.

For well over a decade, Cambodia has commanded the attention of the world. ASEAN and the United Nations have been working closely with each other to realise a durable political settlement of the Cambodian problem. The United Nations has just undertaken one of the most comprehensive peace-keeping operations in its history in Cambodia.

The United Nations, essentially through the United Nations Transition Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), should be congratulated for organising the massive repatriation of Cambodian refugees from neighbouring Thailand and the crucial elections which have resulted in the creation of a democratically elected majority government in Cambodia, thus enhancing the prospect for national reconciliation.

I should like to express my government’s appreciation to Mr Yasushi Akashi, his colleagues and the men and women of UNTAC for successfully fulfilling their mission to help restore peace to Cambodia. Above all, our warmest congratulations go to the courageous Cambodian people themselves and in particular to His Majesty Samdech Norodom Sihanouk for his vital role in restoring the Cambodian nation.

Besides facilitating the return of more than 300,000 Cambodians to their homeland, Thailand had cooperated with the United Nations from the outset. We participated in the mine-clearing and road building operations in western Cambodia and, as I speak, are working closely with UNTAC in implementing the withdrawal of the remaining UNTAC personnel.

Thailand will continue to participate in the international community’s efforts to rehabilitate Cambodia. To this end, we welcome the success of the recent meeting of the International Committee on Rehabilitation of Cambodia held in Paris in September this year. With the return of peace and normality to Cambodia, we are confident that Cambodia will resume its rightful place in the Southeast Asian family of nations. Thailand pledges

its friendship and cooperation to the newly-elected government of Cambodia as it embarks on the path of nation-building.

In the post-Cold War world, the changing concept of "security" provides a further impetus to the United Nations' regional role. Security in the present era has been defined in far broader terms than in the past. In particular, the non-military aspect of security has assumed greater urgency than and precedence over its military dimension. It has been conceived of more in terms of a confidence-building process than either defence or deterrence.

Activities to "reassure" other parties, political dialogues and other similar arrangements to create and enhance mutual understanding, collaborative efforts for mutual benefit to solve common problems, crisis-management mechanisms, and other preventive measures could all be subsumed under the security heading.

Such a concept of security, particularly at the regional level, fits in well with the preventive diplomacy approach. This is one potential area where the United Nations may define its role—one which would strengthen and facilitate regional cooperation and understanding.

Naturally, all efforts in this regard must be undertaken within a multilateral framework.

In this regard, my government welcomes the secretary-general's excellent and comprehensive report entitled "An Agenda for Peace," which represents new thinking and an innovative approach towards strengthening the United Nations' role. Moreover, my government is heartened by the enthusiasm member states have shown for the report. The next step is for us to implement fully and quickly the recommendations put forward by the report, as well as by the various Security Council statements and the General Assembly resolution 471120 adopted during the previous session.

A mature and self-confident ASEAN is in a singular position to enhance the role and effectiveness of the United Nations in Southeast Asia, particularly in the areas of preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peace-keeping and peace-building. In the aftermath of the Cold War, the success of the United Nations very much depends on close cooperation with countries in target regions.

Simply put, the United Nations needs all the help it can get. Regional organisations can help identify potential conflicts and, together with the United Nations, contain them before they erupt. Cooperation between the UN and a regional organisation with a solid track record such as ASEAN can compensate for weaknesses that each organisation may suffer from singly.

To explore the best ASEAN could act in accordance with the recommendations contained in "An Agenda for

Peace," Thailand has initiated and organised, in collaboration with Singapore, our ASEAN partner, a series of international workshops on ASEAN-UN Cooperation for Peace and Preventive Diplomacy.

The rationale behind this initiative is simple enough. The threat to international peace, actual or potential, often arises out of a certain specific region. With Cold War constraints on UN regional intervention removed, the organisation is in an ideal position to cooperate with ASEAN to ensure peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

The foundation for such cooperation already exists. The ASEAN Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia forms the basis for a new code of conduct in the region and was endorsed by the 47th UN General Assembly.

Other factors may also favour the UN's preventive diplomacy in Southeast Asia. One of these is the regional presence of the big powers. Under certain circumstances the United Nations provides a framework for big-power actions. A case in point is Japan's peace-keeping role in the region under the UNTAC.

Arrangements could thus be made for these nations to play a "legitimate" crisis-prevention role involving, for example, political dialogue and mediation. Similarly, the regional economic development imperative may add impetus to the UN's regional involvement. The organisation has long been in place in Southeast Asia in this regard. Its development commitments to, and development efforts in the region have been evident in the location there of various UN regional bodies.

The next step will be to work out specific functional arrangements for ASEAN-UN cooperation. The third and final workshop, to be held in Bangkok in January 1994, is anticipated to come up with suggestions on appropriate mechanisms for fostering the conditions for regional peace and prosperity through closer cooperation between ASEAN and the United Nations.

The improved outlook for greater economic cooperation in the region is manifest in the enthusiasm for economic networking. Within ASEAN, we have set up the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) to intensify intra-ASEAN economic cooperation and attract outside investment. The countries of Southeast Asia are taking up the challenge of forging economic linkages through various schemes known as "growth triangles," "growth quadrangle" and "special economic zones." These linkages will help further promote the spirit of friendship and cooperation and serve to provide a nucleus for greater interaction with other parts of the world.

A livable world is a world in which governmental development strategies can be implemented in a conducive international environment. The international economy must provide a supportive climate for achieving environment and development goals. Among others we must further pursue the liberalisation of global trade policies, promote the efficient allocation of the world's resources,

make trade and environment mutually compatible, and provide adequate financial and technical sources to developing countries.

These measures are prerequisites for creating a more prosperous world, where countries share their wealth in a liberal trading system and where fair competition is guaranteed by broadly accepted rules.

For this reason, my government believes that an early and successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round is imperative to revitalising world trade. Thailand joins our ASEAN partners in welcoming the renewed determination and commitment of the industrialised countries at the recent G-7 meeting in Tokyo to resolve remaining problems and to conclude the Round by the end of this year.

Balanced "planetary development" is not only an enlightened aim, it is the foundation for the enduring progress of all societies. And this should be the basis for reactivating North-South cooperation. It should mark a new beginning in international development cooperation based on the principles of the Cartagena commitments. It must go beyond "aid" to embrace partnership and reciprocal responsibilities. It must address global and regional concerns by meeting local needs.

The global consensus reached at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro last year has equipped us to take collective action to meet new priorities. We have built the consensus to pursue development which goes beyond economic growth. It is development in a comprehensive sense, guided by principles of equality and justice, and underpinned by social and ecological responsibility. As we leaders proclaim change, we must demonstrate our political conviction through national policies that are in line with the international consensus.

My government is fully committed to the implementation of the UNCED [expansion unknown] agreement. Our national development plan for 1992 to 1996 reflects our determination to achieve sustainable development. My government has taken various necessary administrative and legal steps to integrate the environment with development and to implement the programme of action as reflected in Agenda 21.

As my government is the first elected government following the May incident of 1992, we are more keenly aware of the intimate links between democracy, development, and human rights. Hence, democratisation must be accompanied by sustained efforts to further the cause of human dignity and freedom.

Forty-five years ago, Thailand joined the international community in adopting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Since then, the international community has achieved a number of results in the protection and promotion of human rights.

Last June, the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna concluded with a consensus document. The

Vienna Declaration brings together views on fundamental rights, and serves as a universal basis from which the international community will proceed.

Opposition on Government Decision To Join NAM

*BK0710013793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
7 Oct 93 p 1*

[Text] Opposition leaders yesterday lashed out at the Government's foreign policy, particularly at its decision to join the Non-aligned Movement, fearing it might cost Thailand the friendship and benefits it currently enjoys from some nonmember states.

Chat Phatthana Party leader Chatchai Chunhawan said Thailand's participation in NAM would make it lose some of its "friends", especially the United States.

"We can no longer hold a joint military exercise with the US which means we won't be able to improve on our military strategies. There won't be any exchange of visits by military leaders of the two countries," Gen Chatchai said.

Prachakon Thai leader Samak Sunthorawet said it was not necessary for Thailand to apply for NAM membership. Refraining from doing so would enable it to maintain its relationship with any country, he claimed.

"We need not openly show that we will not align with any side. If we just make no move, we can keep our relations with all sides," Mr Samak said.

He also claimed that being a NAM member meant Thailand would have to associate itself with some countries involved in terrorism.

Thailand was approved as a member of the movement on Monday during a NAM ministerial meeting in New York, making it the last of the six ASEAN countries to become a member of this group.

Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri earlier said in New York that it was the right time for Thailand to align with NAM taking into consideration an increasingly important role of developing nations in the world's political and economic development.

Developing nations, including former colonies and Muslim countries, form the backbone of NAM.

Gen Chatchai, Mr Samak and other key opposition figures including Chat Thai Party leader Praman Adireksan, Chat Thai secretary-general Banhan Sinlapa-acha, Muan Chon Party leader Chaloem Yubamrung, Social Action Party leader Montri Phongphanit, Rassadon Party leader Chaiphak Siriwat and Chat Phatthana secretary-general Prachuap Chaiyasan met at a Bangkok hotel yesterday to discuss the current political situation.

The opposition leaders agreed that the Government has failed in implementing its foreign policy and branded Prime Minister Chuan Likphai as an "unsuccessful diplomat".

Gen Chatchai said it was very undiplomatic of Mr Chuan to say during his visit to the United States that the Chatchai Administration deserved to be toppled by the military because it had been involved in corruption.

"The prime minister has been considered a diplomat who must help promote relations during his visit. However, he turned around to attack fellow Thais and that makes him unsuitable as a diplomat," he said.

The opposition leaders had earlier attacked a plan to collect retroactive tax on seized assets of 10 politicians saying that might make the Revenue Department chief face criminal lawsuits later.

They plan to closely monitor the Government's latest measures in shoring up paddy prices because if all goes as expected Thai rice would fetch high prices this year due to a low output in other countries as a result of natural disasters.

"If Thai farmers fail to sell paddy at good prices, that would mean the Government was incompetent," they said.

Opposition parties yesterday agreed to set up a committee to coordinate work with the Government before House deliberations on important draft bills. All party leaders and secretaries-general will meet every Wednesday before the House meeting.

Paper Questions Accuracy of World Bank Report

BK0710085993 Bangkok NAEON 7 Oct 93 p 4

[Editorial: "World Bank, An Illusory Mirror"]

[Text] As the ASEAN meeting was going on in Singapore, the World Bank circulated a report saying that Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Thailand have bright prospects for investment with a satisfactory average economic growth of 7.5 percent.

This is the highest economic expansion rate for this region, three times higher than that of the Latin American region and as much as 20 times higher than those countries in the southern region of the African continent.

This World Bank report is considered reliable and agreeable by leaders of many countries who can make more use of it only if it says the economic gain was spread evenly and helped reduce the gap between rich and poor.

This piece of information from the World Bank is correct to a certain extent in the case of Singapore, the small country that can make full use of its human resources. However, with Thailand and Indonesia, many people shake their heads in disagreement.

As for Thailand, endeavors have been made by the past as well as present governments to divert investment to provincial areas. Many promotional privileges and incentives have been worked out for that purpose. But so far no tangible achievement has been accomplished.

Several megaprojects such as the Eastern Seaboard Development Program, which incorporates a deep seaport worth tens of billions of baht, and big factories are unable to operate to their full capacities due to inadequate infrastructure. General problems include water supply, telephone service, roads, and other public facilities.

The continuing influx of people from the northeastern region into Bangkok is clear proof of the failure of industrial promotion in the provincial areas and the existing extensive wide gap between the people in Bangkok and the provinces.

More than half of the country's farmer population, according to a survey conducted two years ago, still earn only 300 to 500 baht per month per family.

This is the reality in Thailand, a country under the rule of a half-baked democracy. However, it is still better than the dictatorial system of Indonesia because in any country under a dictatorship, the majority of the people are always in poverty and hardship while only a handful live in prosperity.

We do not know the intention of the World Bank in painting such a beautiful picture of economic figures for these countries. If the report is acceptable to all parties, it means the wide gap between the rich and the poor has been overlooked. Farmers and workers will be further exploited and forced to live under increasing pressure. At the same time, the World Bank report will be used by the rulers as a propaganda tool to boast about their political successes.

We believe that factual figures and the truth are the first steps toward acknowledging the problem. If the problem is not acknowledged, there is no point in thinking about its solution, the objective of which is to ensure the well-being of all mankind.

Deputy Minister Leaves for Trade Talks in Seoul

BK0610021993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Oct 93 p 11

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan leaves for Seoul tonight on an official visit aimed largely at reducing the bilateral trade gap now in favour of South Korea.

Security will be another key topic during his three-day visit from October 7-9.

Mr Surin is due to meet South Korean Deputy Foreign Minister Hong Soon-Young and to pay a courtesy call on Foreign Minister Hang Sung-Joo tomorrow. Mr Surin said he would discuss bilateral ties in general, and seek

co-operation to close the trade gap which currently is about 1,200 million baht in South Korea's favour.

At the same time, South Korea's role in boosting trade activities in the Asia-Pacific region would be covered, Mr Surin added.

On security, Mr Surin will try to find out Seoul's stance and role vis-a-vis co-operation for peace with members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Ministry Warns Crews Fishing in Malaysian Waters

BK0610131793 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Excerpts] The Foreign Ministry has received a report from the Thai Embassy in Kuala Lumpur that the embassy has provided assistance to Thai fishermen detained in Malaysia for fishing in Malaysian waters and tried to obtain their release. The fishermen were seized from 12 Thai boats on 30 March and 27 July. [passage omitted]

On 28 September, representatives of the owners of the seized boats sent a vessel to bring the 126 fishermen—who had completed their sentences—back to Songkhla Province. The 12 seized boats were in bad conditions and the owners are debating whether to buy them back from the Malaysian authorities.

To avoid a reoccurrence of this type of incident, the Foreign Ministry wishes to warn the crews of Thai fishing boats to be more careful while fishing near Malaysian waters, because the Malaysian Government has a firm policy. It will not compromise regarding boats that fish illegally in waters it claims to be within its economic zone.

Officials Deny Mon Repatriation Linked to Gas Deal

BK0410021093 Bangkok THE NATION in English 3 Oct 93 p 2

[Text] THAI security officials yesterday denied that Bangkok and Rangoon had an agreement to repatriate the more than 15,000 ethnic Mon refugees in Thailand in exchange for the purchase of natural gas from Burma.

Sources at the National Security Council told The Nation that the repatriation of displaced Mons was part of an ongoing programme that started five years ago.

They also denied that returnees faced persecution by Burmese authorities. More than 1,000 Mons had returned voluntarily to Burma under the repatriation programme over the past five years, they said. "We believe the rumour about alleged forced repatriation originated from Mon guerrillas fighting Rangoon for greater autonomy and aimed at tarnishing Thailand's image," one of the sources said.

They said those who started the rumour wanted the international community to regard Thailand as a country bent on exploiting its neighbours' natural resources with no concern for humanity.

The sources said the Thai government had taken measures to ascertain that refugees did not face persecution by Burmese authorities when they returned.

"Only those who go back to wage guerrilla warfare against the Burmese government get hurt or killed," one source said.

The sources said the repatriation was part of the Thai government's policy to enforce law and order and protect the country's natural resources.

They said the displaced Mons had caused serious damage to vast areas of national forest reserves in Kanchanaburi and other western provinces bordering Burma.

Moldova Seeks Trade Relations, Investments

BK0410133393 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 4 Oct 93

[Text] At about 1500 today, Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan received Moldovan Republic Deputy Foreign Minister (Eon Bosnaru) at the Foreign Ministry. Reporting afterward, the deputy foreign minister said he and the Moldovan visitor discussed economic and political relations. He said the Moldova Republic wanted to become independent and, therefore, sought support from the international community.

Surin said Thailand is the only Southeast Asian country on the itinerary of the Moldovan deputy foreign minister and his 80-strong delegation of government and private sector officials. They are interested in establishing every level of contact with Thailand. This afternoon the Moldovan deputy foreign minister will call on Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak.

Surin said Moldova sought to establish trade relations with Thailand and wanted investments from it. This is because it has plenty of agricultural products and Thailand could help improve its processing system. Moreover, Moldova is facing a food crisis, especially a rice shortage. Moldova used to buy rice through the Soviet Union but now wants to buy rice directly from Thailand. There are, however, the problems of transport and payment because Moldova has no strong currencies. Therefore, an appropriate system will have to be found.

Supporters Hail Banhan as Next Chat Thai Leader

BK0710022693 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Oct 93 p A2

[Text] Supporters of Banhan Sinlapa-acha have begun counting the days before the veteran politician will rise

to the top post of the Chat Thai Party. It is in this diminutive "money man" that they see the future prime minister of Thailand.

If incumbent Chat Thai Party leader Pol Gen Praman Adireksarn's statement has been correctly interpreted, Banhan will be handed the party's reins as a New Year's gift with the arrival of 1994.

"Khun Banhan is a man of wisdom, intelligence and patience. He has all the qualities of a good leader," Bon-ua Prasoetsuwan, a deputy leader of the biggest opposition party, said.

Most Chat Thai executives share Bon-ua's high praise for Banhan, expressing confidence that he will give the party a new political strength.

Chat Thai Party, of which Banhan is secretary-general, now has 77 MPs in the House of Representatives. With Banhan in charge, many of the party members believe it will be able to increase the number of parliamentary seats.

Pol Gen Praman's decision to step down did not come without a push.

Banhan's supporters had been putting pressure on the 81-year-old party leader the past few months to leave the scene. But was not until last week that Pol Gen Praman put it on record that he was ready to make way for Banhan who he described as "the new wave".

Bon-ua told *The Nation* he had confidence that Banhan has enough political clout and experience to be prime minister. "Khun Banhan will be able to win the hearts and minds of the people with his hard work and sacrifices," Bon-ua said.

Anuwat Watthanapongsiri, another deputy leader of Chat Thai Party, said it was only natural that Banhan would become the party leader. "He has been devoting himself to building up the party. He has been some sort of a master of the house all along," he said.

Anuwat, also a seasoned politician sees a bright future for Chat Thai Party under Banhan. "Chat Thai Party will definitely become a much bigger party. And if the rest of the current opposition parties merge, there would be fewer parties and the people would be presented with clearer choices," he said.

And when people cast their ballots, they know they are also electing the next prime minister, he said.

But both Anuwat and Bon-ua shied away the question of whether or not with Banhan as its leader the Chat Thai Party would stand a good chance of joining the Chuan government.

"This is something we cannot predict. And we are not desperate about wanting to join the government. But what lies ahead is something we cannot foresee," Bon-ua said.

Chat Thai Party has always been seen as "an opposition within the opposition" because of its soft stand toward the Chuan administration. Sources in the biggest opposition party prefer to describe it as a pragmatic approach.

Unlike the other opposition parties Chat Thai has chosen not to burn all its bridges to the Democrat-led coalition government. The party has made no secret of its hope that with a stroke of luck it could be brought into the Chuan administration.

The hope is not without basis. There have indeed been behind-the-scenes contacts between Banhan and some senior Democrats, notably its secretary general, Maj Gen Sanan Khachonprasat.

The Democrats' condition was that Pol Gen Pramam would have to quit first, before any serious talks could take place. That was the carrot offered the Chat Thai Party before Prime Minister Chuan Likphai reshuffled his Cabinet last month by kicking out the Social Action Party and bringing in the Seritham Party.

Even today, some senior Chat Thai members have not given up hope that there is a place for the party in the coalition.

For two decades, Banhan has been a towering figure in Chat Thai Party. A wealthy businessman with extensive connections, Banhan slowly built up his clout before becoming MP for the first time in 1976. From that point on he enjoyed a meteoric rise, serving as an agriculture and communications minister in the Prem administrations before becoming, successively, industry, finance and interior minister in the two Chatchai governments.

Banhan is known for his ability to cultivate businessmen, politicians and even military figures. At the height of his career, before he was toppled along with the Chatchai government in a military coup in 1991, he reportedly had recruited an army of newspaper columnists who always lent him a sympathetic ear.

Banhan was probably the most watched suspect in the military-engineered investigation against the "unusually rich". But he managed to walk away with little damage—unlike four of his Chat Thai colleagues who had their assets seized.

A native of Suphan Buri, Banhan is immensely popular with the constituents in the rice-growing province where he has donated huge sums of money to build public facilities ranging from schools to roads. Scandals linked to Banhan seem to have little meaning to his constituents.

Songtham Panyadi (Chiang Rai-Chat Thai) claimed that Banhan is the person most suitable to take over from Pol Gen Praman. Besides his intelligence, Songtham said, Banhan has an exceptionally good memory. "I am amazed that he can remember every single MP of the party. He can tell you which MP represents which province," Songtham said.

He believed Banhan would bring Chat Thai Party an unprecedented solidarity. "Khun Banhan is recognized not just for his money but also for his ability," he said.

Banhans would be the first politician outside the Ratchakru family, the clan which founded the Chat Thai Party, to lead the party.

But Charoen Chankomon (Chaiyaphum-Chat Thai) emphasised: "We don't treat Chat Thai Party as a property of the Ratchakru family. The political picture has changed, political parties will have to change too."

In fact, many of the Chat Thai veterans formerly closely identified with the Ratchakru clan have gradually switched to Banhan.

Watthana Atssawahem, a deputy party leader, had been staunchly against Banhan as Pol Gen Praman's successor until recently. He admitted that Banhan had proved himself to be a very capable party secretary general.

"He has been a hard-working and serious politician. But we have yet to see how good he will be as party leader," Watthana said.

Watthana also cautioned against the interpretation that Pol Gen Praman is going to turn his leadership over to Banhan.

"Chat Thai Party is not a property which can be transferred from one person to another just like that. It's the executive committee which has the final say," he said.

Corporate Leaders Form Environmental Council

BK0710024593 Bangkok *THE NATION* in English
7 Oct 93 p B2

[Text] AFTER half a decade of racking up one of the world's fastest growth rates, the Thai business elite have launched a crusade to reverse the environmental degradation that has been a by-product of this phenomenal growth and to put the economic juggernaut on a more ecologically sustainable footing.

Under the leadership of widely respected former prime minister Anan Panyarachun, the new business council is a virtual "Who's Who" of the country's blue-chip corporations—joined by a few American and European multinationals.

The Thailand Business Council for Sustainable Development (TBCSD) is meant to propel the private sector into taking a "leading role in preventing and solving national environmental problems," according to materials made available at their inaugural meeting yesterday held at the Imperial Queen's Park Hotel.

That is no small agenda. Besides widespread deforestation and pesticide poisoning of agricultural lands, Thailand is poised for a substantial increase of its hazardous waste—a problem that will multiply six-fold during this decade, according to a recent (U.S. government) report—as the country moves into a more intense stage

of industrialization. Such conditions aggravate a looming water crisis which poses profound repercussions for agriculture, industry and ultimately, the general public. Then there is Bangkok now internationally notorious as one of the world's most traffic-choked and polluted cities.

In launching the council, Anan emphasized the need for action in solving environmental problems.

Council members represent a cross-section of major businesses in Thailand and Anan said it was the moral duty of the large firms to set an example of "good corporate citizenship". He said that he expects them to make commitments in both financial resources and management time to demonstrate an exemplary "civic-mindedness" that should filter down to smaller and medium-sized firms and to the public at large. The central government will help ease the cost of adjustment to more environmentally-sound industrial practices for these smaller and medium-sized firms, he noted.

Dr Phaichit Uathanikun, chairman of the executive board of directors of the Thailand Environment Institute (which acts as the Secretariat to the TBCSD), acknowledged that there were already many committed players in the environmental arena. He emphasized that rather than displacing these efforts, the Institute intends to play a "catalytic role" drawing upon these various quarters, government, private sector and among NGOs (non-governmental organizations).

Sophon Suphaphong, president of Bangchak Petroleum Co Ltd, noted that environmental degradation is often linked to poverty because the poor have few choices in providing for their immediate needs. The industrial sector, on the other hand, is generally seen by the public as the primary source of environmental problems. Only profound attitude changes throughout society will lead to the significant behavioral changes the country now needs, he said.

Anan added that although the country now has substantial environmental protection, legislation laws are not enough to ensure significant improvement. "Only when there is good cooperation between the Government, the people and the private sector, can the legal framework have a chance of being implemented in a meaningful way."

"Thailand is at a crossroads," cautions Dr Thira Phanthumwanit. The country can maintain the status quo—and face an impending ecological "disaster"—or choose to put the country on a path of sustainable development, says the noted environmentalist, active in the area for most of the last 20 years.

Vietnam**Return of More MIA Remains Reported**

*BK0610155193 Hanoi VNA in English 1547 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA 6 Oct—The Vietnam MIA office yesterday returned to the US MIA Office remains of 13 American servicemen and personnel effects relating to 8 cases involving 17 American servicemen reported missing in action during the Vietnam war.

The remains were collected during the recent 25th Joint Vietnam-US Search, and examined by experts of the two countries. The remains of six MIA's were found by the joint-search teams and the rest by the local people.

Since March, 1974, Vietnam has returned remains of 573 American MIAs to the US side. Of the 71 remains returned since early 1993, 36 were found by the joint-search teams and the rest by the local people.

The representative of the US MIA office highly appreciated the Vietnamese Government and people's cooperation and humanitarian policy.

Government Denies Bribing U.S. Commerce Secretary

*BK0710104393 Hong Kong AFP in English 0947 GMT
7 Oct 93*

[Text] HANOI, Oct 7 (AFP)—The Vietnamese government denied Thursday that it had bribed U.S. Commerce Secretary Ron Brown to try to lift the economic embargo against Vietnam.

"This affair, which some newspapers are trying to play up, has no relation to reality. This information is ill-intentioned," Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Ho The Lan told a regular press briefing.

Lan said that Hanoi was able "frankly and sincerely" exchange its views on the embargo with the numerous official U.S. delegations that have visited Vietnam, meetings that provided "the best forum" to discuss such issues.

"To our knowledge, Mr. Brown has never visited Vietnam and Vietnamese officials have not yet had the opportunity to have contacts with him," Lan said.

A U.S. grand jury is investigating claims by a Vietnamese-American businessman, Binh Ly, that Brown accepted 700,000 dollars from Nguyen Van Hao, a former business partner of Ly, to help lift the trade embargo.

The affair has led a coalition of U.S. Vietnam veterans groups to call for Brown to resign. Brown has acknowledged meeting Hao three times, including once after he was nominated by President Bill Clinton, but has denied any wrongdoing.

Another Vietnamese official, who asked not to be named, charged that Binh Ly had fabricated the bribe story to derail the process of normalization between Hanoi and Washington.

Do Muoi Activities in Singapore Updated

BK0710042793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Station correspondent's telephone report on the activities of General Secretary Do Muoi in Singapore]

[Text] Dear friends, as earlier reported, on 5 October, Comrade Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] arrived in Singapore for an official visit. On 6 October Comrade Do Muoi held talks with His Excellency Goh Chok Tong, prime minister and secretary general of the People's Action Party [PAP] of Singapore.

Present at the talks on the Vietnamese side were Le Phuoc Tho, member of the CPV Central Committee Political Bureau and head of the Party Central Committee Organization Department; Hong Ha, secretary and head of the Party External Relations Department; Tran Duc Luong, member of the Party Central Committee and deputy prime minister; Nguyen Manh Cam, member of the Party Central Committee and foreign minister; Phan Hien, chief of the Party Central Committee Office; Le Duc Thuy, assistant to the party general secretary; Nguyen Manh Hung, Vietnamese ambassador to Singapore, and other officials.

On the Singaporean side were: Brigadier General George Yeo, minister of information and arts and second minister for foreign affairs; Lim Bun Heng, minister of the Prime Minister's Office and second minister of trade and industry; Lu King, Singaporean charge d'affaires to Vietnam and other high ranking officials of the Singaporean Government.

Before the talks, General Secretary Do Muoi had a private meeting with Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong.

During the talks, General Secretary Do Muoi briefed Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong on the main developments in Vietnam as well as key points in the country's foreign policy. He said: As a country that has undergone dozens of years of war and struggled against great losses, sacrifices, and heavy consequences, Vietnam has no other ardent aspiration than to maintain independence, peace, and stability. This is in order to build and develop and make the people rich, the country prosperous, and society equitable and civilized, conforming to the trend of the era. Vietnam's renovation undertaking has recorded remarkable achievements. The socioeconomic situation is improving notably; the people's spiritual and material life has been improved; democracy has broadened; and relations with foreign countries have expanded.

Regarding Vietnam's foreign policy, Comrade Do Muoi said: Vietnam is implementing a foreign policy of independence, sovereignty, and the diversification and multiplication of international relations with the motto "Vietnam wishing to be friend with all countries in the world and striving for peace, independence, and development." This is on the basis of respect for other countries' independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs, while resolving all disputes by peaceful negotiations. Vietnam strictly respects the Convention on Human Rights and realizes the public values of human rights, but protests the use of human rights and democracy as a pretext for interfering in the internal affairs and national sovereignty of other countries, thus violating the national cultural tradition of nations.

He stressed that Vietnam attaches importance to broadening relations with neighboring countries in Asia and the Pacific and pays special attention to the multifaceted cooperation with each ASEAN country and ASEAN as a whole and is ready to join ASEAN at an appropriate time.

He welcomed the Singaporean Government's policy on accelerating relations with Vietnam and highly appraised Singapore's experience in economic management and national development. He said that Vietnam and Singapore have many favorable conditions, share many similar characteristics and potentials that can support each other in multifaceted development, thus helping to strengthen the bilateral relations to the higher level.

Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong hailed General Secretary Do Muoi's first visit to Singapore. He termed this as a very significant event in the relations between the two countries that will lead to bilateral cooperation in various fields with more fruitful results. The Singaporean Prime Minister expressed his satisfaction at the rapid development in the relations between the two countries over the past two years and would like to take new measures aimed at strengthening and promoting these relations. He said that the agreements signed by the two countries two years ago have laid a firm foundation and created confidence for Singaporean businessmen to invest in and expand trade relations with Vietnam.

Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong highly appraised Vietnam's success in economic renovation and asserted Singapore's and other ASEAN member countries' delight at seeing the achievements recorded by Vietnam in its renovation process. He said: I am convinced that with this correct policy, Vietnam will develop greatly and rapidly in the next 10-15 years. He asserted that peace and stability in Southeast Asia will be preserved if Vietnam, a member of the region with a population of more than 70 million, develops well and lives in prosperity. As a result, Singapore will do its best to help Vietnam in its economic development and renovation implementation.

Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong said: Vietnam's increasing cooperation with Singapore and ASEAN will pave the way for Vietnam's integration into the strong and dynamic Asia-Pacific community.

The two sides exchanged views on the main lines for developing the multifaceted relations between the two countries. Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong pledged to increase technical aid to Vietnam and help train Vietnamese cadres in various fields in which Singapore has more experience while encouraging Singaporean corporation and businessmen to invest more in Vietnam. He expressed the hope that Vietnam will soon become a member of ASEAN.

The talks proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship, cordiality and practicality.

Dear friends, on the afternoon of 6 October, Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew paid a courtesy call on Comrade Do Muoi. In a friendly atmosphere, Lee Kuan Yew recalled the good time he shared with the Vietnamese leaders during his recent visit to Vietnam. He wished General Secretary Do Muoi success in his visit to Singapore.

Comrade Do Muoi hailed His Excellency Lee Kuan Yew for his positive contributions to restoring and developing the friendship and cooperation between the two governments and nations.

Both sides exchanged views on measures aimed at accelerating and expanding bilateral cooperation for ever greater results meeting the aspiration of the two peoples, thereby contributing to strengthening stability and development in the region.

In the evening of the same day, Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew hosted a dinner in honor of General Secretary Do Muoi and his entourage.

Meets With President

*BK0610160993 Hanoi VNA in English 1554 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 6—General Secretary of the CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] Central Committee Do Muoi on Oct. 5 met with Singaporean President Ong Teng Cheong.

President Ong Teng Cheong welcomed General Secretary Do Muoi and his party and wished the delegation's visit success in order to raise the Vietnam-Singapore relations to a new step of development. He expressed his admiration and highly praised the Vietnamese people's achievements in their renovation process.

For his part, General Secretary Do Muoi expressed his sincere thanks to the president, prime minister and government of Singapore for their warm reception. He hoped that the current visit will contribute to the promotion of friendly and cooperative relations between Vietnam and Singapore.

General Secretary Do Muoi invited President Ong Teng Cheong to visit Vietnam at a convenient time. The latter accepted the invitation with pleasure. The time will be fixed through the diplomatic channel.

Holds Talks With Prime Minister

*BK0610161593 Hanoi VNA in English 1608 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct 6—Party General Secretary Do Muoi today held talks with Goh Chok Tong prime minister [P.M.] and general secretary of the People's Action Party (PAP) of Singapore.

Present at the talks on the Vietnamese side were Le Phuoc Tho, Politburo member and head of the party Organization Commission, Hong Ha, secretary and head of the External Relations Commission of the CPV CC [Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee], Tran Duc Luong, member of the CPV CC and deputy prime minister, Nguyen Manh Cam, member of the CPV CC and foreign minister, and Nguyen Manh Hung, Vietnamese ambassador to Singapore, and other officials.

On the Singaporean side were: Brigadier General George Yong-boon Yeo, minister of information and arts and second minister for foreign affairs, Lim Bun Heng, minister of Prime Minister's Office and second minister of trade and industry, Lu King, Singaporean charge d'affaires in Vietnam and other high ranking officials.

Earlier, General Secretary Do Muoi had a private meeting with Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong.

During the talks, General Secretary Do Muoi stressed: "As a country having experienced dozens of years in war and overcome big losses and sacrifice, heavy consequences, Vietnam has no more ardent aspiration but maintaining independence peace, and stability to build and develop for the target: rich people, prosperous country, equal and civilized society, conforming to the trend of the times".

Regarding Vietnam's external policy, he said:

"Vietnam implements the external policy of independence, sovereignty, diversification and multiplication of international relations with the motto 'Vietnam wishes to be friend with all countries in the international community and strive for peace, independence and development' on the basis of respecting independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and not interfering in each other's internal affairs and solving all disputes by peaceful negotiation. Vietnam strictly respects the Convention on Human Rights and realizes the public values of human rights, but protest against the using of the pretext 'human rights and democracy' to interfere in internal affairs and national sovereignty, violating national cultural tradition".

He stressed that Vietnam attaches importance to the broadening of relations with neighbouring countries in Asia and the Pacific and pays great attention to multi-faceted cooperation with each ASEAN country and ASEAN as a whole and is ready to join ASEAN at an appropriate time.

He highly valued and paid much attention to Singapore's experience in economic management and national development.

Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong hailed General Secretary Do Muoi's visit to Singapore as a very important event in the relations between the two countries. He expressed his satisfaction at the rapid development of the relations between the two countries over the past two years and would like to take new measures aimed at strengthening and promoting those relations.

He highly appreciated Vietnam's success in economic renovation and affirmed that peace and stability in Southeast Asia will be preserved if Vietnam, a member of the region with a population of 70 million, develops well and lives in prosperity.

P.M. Goh Chok Tong said: "Vietnam's increasing cooperation with Singapore and ASEAN will pave the way for Vietnam's integration into the strong and dynamic Asia-Pacific community".

The two sides exchanged views on the main lines aimed at developing the multi-faceted relations between the two countries. P.M. Goh Chok Tong pledged to increase technical aid, help training necessary kinds of cadres for Vietnam and expressed his hope that Vietnam will soon become a member of ASEAN.

The talks took place in an atmosphere of friendship, cordiality and practicality.

DPRK Envoy Holds News Conference on Anniversary

*BK0610063593 Hanoi VNA in English 0624 GMT
6 Oct 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 6—Ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Han Min-chol held here yesterday a press conference on the 48th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea (October 10). Ambassador Han Min-chol highlighted the great achievements recorded by the DPRK people in the struggle for their national liberation and socialist construction under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by President Kim Il-song. Ambassador Han Min-chol spoke about the implementation of some economic and cultural projects which has demonstrated the creativeness of the party and people of DPRK and about DPRK's stance on negotiation with South Korea aimed at achieving independent and peaceful reunification.

Commentary Praises Relations With Germany

*BK0510113793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English
1000 GMT 4 Oct 93*

[Station Commentary]

[Text] The German people have celebrated the third anniversary of their national reunification. That event helped change the political-geographic face of Europe, and made Germany become an economic power in the world. In such a situation, the cooperative relations between Vietnam and Germany have developed. Here is our radio editor's opinion:

The relations between Vietnam and Germany have a long-term tradition and have developed over the last few years. Leaders between the two countries have exchanged visits. Particularly, the visit to Germany by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet last June has opened a new page in the history of the two countries. On this occasion, both sides expressed the wish to promote the cooperative relations between the two countries. Noteworthy is that Germany has provided Vietnam with great assistance in economic cooperation. Last year, Germany had to reduce by eight percent the budget on development aid because of its economic difficulties. However, it has tried to increase financial assistance to Vietnam from 29 million deutsche marks in 1991 to 49 million deutsche marks this year. Besides, Germany has given Vietnam 10 million deutsche marks for the program on reintegration of Vietnamese gas workers in Vietnam, and in the coming years, it still gives priority assistance to some countries, including Vietnam.

German financial assistance to Vietnam focusses on the field of public health, environmental protection, and personnel training. Noteworthy is the large-scale program on upgrading the Vietnam-Germany Hospital in Hanoi, which is valued at 15 million deutsche marks. Many non-government organizations in Germany have

strengthened their relations with Vietnam, particularly the Berlin Helping Children Organization, which has raised funds to help Vietnam, especially those who have been severely diseased. Besides, Germany has cooperated with Vietnam in other fields, such as energy supply, railway, infrastructure construction. Obviously, the relations between Vietnam and Germany remain unchanged after many historical upheavals. On the contrary, these relations have perfectly developed, meeting the interest of peoples of the two countries, and contributing to peace and stability in each country.

Phu Yen Flooding Reportedly Kills 36

BK0710075293 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 6 Oct 93

[Text] According to the latest report from Phu Yen Province, as of 19:30 hours 36 people had been killed and eight injured. Many ricefields, subsidiary food crops, communications facilities, and water conservation projects were damaged. Thousands of homes were destroyed and 10,000 tonnes of rice at the Phu Yen storage center were flooded.

The Phu Yen provincial party organization and people were extremely moved at the sympathy and assistance provided by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet; lawyer Nguyen Huu Tho, president of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee, the Ministry of National Defense, the 5th Military Region, and the Navy in the Fourth Zone. Meanwhile, cadres and workers of the Electric Corporation No. 3 have donated 10 million dong and sent a team to help Phu Yen overcome its difficulties.

The Phu Yen provincial party organization and people appeal to the state, sectors, and localities to provide it with more help and assistance so that it may quickly overcome the serious losses and difficulties caused by the recent heavy rains and flash floods.

